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¡González ganó, de Nuevo!



PÁGINA 2

Bárbara González observa el trabajo de Delbys Cruz y Elena Burn como si su vida dependiese de ello. Cuatro horas y varios miles de dólares después, su total de votos (602) no cambió.

GONZALEZ WON, AGAIN!

Barbara Gonzalez watches the work of Delbys Cruz and Elena Burn as if her life depended of it. Four hours and thousands of dollars later, her total votes (602) didn't change. PAGE 2

Competencia de Geography Jowdy



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Alumnos de Parthum School, ganadores del Jowdy Geography Challenge: Diana Garay, Zeina Chakar, Isayra Coco, Brendon Loring, Jenavie Jiménez and Carlos Tanuz.

JOWDY GEOGRAPHY CHALLENGE

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Editorial

¿Más poder para Laboy?

Hemos estado documentando las transgresiones de Wilfredo T. Laboy por muchos años. Al escuchar que el Comisionado de Educación, David P. Driscoll ha recomendado desmantelar el Comité Escolar de Lawrence y reemplazarlo con personas escogidas, lo único que pudimos pensar fue que la corrupción ahora va a ser rampante.

El Superintendente Escolar se ha dado a conocer por su abuso de poder desde el estacionamiento ilegal de su auto y de sus compinches el día entero en la puerta del frente de su edificio y la policía no es capaz de atreverse, ni en buena forma, pedirle que por favor no lo vuelva a hacer. ¡Ni pensar que tengan la audacia de ponerle una multa a nadie de esa oficina!

El Sr. Laboy ha traído más bochorno y vergüenza a Lawrence que ningún otro funcionario público fuera de haber ido a la cárcel. El rige el departamento escolar como si fuera su propia compañía repartiendo empleos a personas escogidas por él; él pone en riesgo a los niños en el sistema escolar empleando a maestros con antecedentes penales. El ex miembro del Comité Escolar, Noah Shannon es el ejemplo más reciente.

Laboy actúa como un dictador amenazando con despido a quien hable con la prensa y viola la Primera Enmienda Constitucional de este periódico prohibiéndonos entrar en los edificios del departamento escolar.

Su altanería nunca compareciendo en público o tomando parte en eventos sociales lo ha marcado como alguien que ha venido a ultrajar y saquear nuestra ciudad.

¿Recuerda el examen de inglés? ¿El teléfono celular de su esposa? ¿Los estribos del carro? ¿El arrancador automático del auto? Como Chairman del Comité Escolar, el Alcalde Michael J. Sullivan ha respaldado todas sus acciones y le permite seguir desperdiciando dinero, dando la impresión que Laboy es el jefe del alcalde.

Pero Driscoll se contradice a sí mismo. Mientras que él dice que las reuniones del Comité Escolar ya no eran productivas, los elogia por haber trabajado conjuntamente para hacer que la supervisión del estado sea innecesaria de ahora en adelante.

Reemplazar a los miembros electos al Comité Escolar con otros nombrados, dará a Laboy la libertad de seleccionar a los cuños de aprobación que le permitirán hacer más daño que antes.

More power for Laboy?

We have been documenting Wilfredo T. Laboy's transgressions for years. Upon hearing that the Commissioner of Education, David P. Driscoll has recommended dismantling the Lawrence School Committee and replace them with chosen people, the only thing that came to mind was that the corruption will now be rampant.

The Lawrence Superintendent of Schools has been known to abuse his power from illegally parking his car and his cronies' car all day long by the front door of his building and the police department will not dare, even politely, ask him not to do that. Forget about the audacity of ticketing anyone from that office!

Mr. Laboy has brought more embarrassment and shame to Lawrence than any other public official, short of going to jail. He rules the school department as if his own company passing out jobs to hand picked people; endangering the children in the school system by giving jobs to teachers with police records. Former School Committee member Noah Shannon is the most recent example of that.

Laboy acts as a dictator threatening with firing anyone who speaks to the press and violating the First Amendment Rights of this newspaper by forbidding us entering in any of the school department buildings.

His arrogance never appearing in public or taking part in community events has branded him as someone who has come to rape and pillage the city.

Remember the proficiency test? His wife's cellular telephone? The running boards? The car automatic starter? As Chairman of the School Committee, Mayor Michael J. Sullivan condones all of his actions and allows him to mismanage money, giving the impression that Laboy is the mayor's boss.

But Driscoll contradicts himself. While he says that the School Committee meetings are no longer productive, he goes on to say that they should be credited for working as a team to make state oversight unnecessary.

Replacing the elected members of the School Committee with appointed ones will be giving Laboy the freedom to select the rubber stamps that will allow him to do more harm than before.

¡Gonzalez ganó... de nuevo!



Tarsha Hassam y Annia Lemberg contando votos, siendo observadas por Domingo Meléndez, Andrés Paniagua, Robert Beals and Marilyn Núñez. Al Centro, Rafael Tejada, Coordinador de Elecciones.

Tarsha Hassam and Annia Lemberg counting votes, being observed by Domingo Melendez, Andres Paniagua, Robert Beals and Marilyn Núñez. At center, Election Coordinator Rafael Tejada.

Por Alberto Surís

El recuento de los votos de González (Jorge) vs. González (Bárbara) se llevó a cabo el 29 de noviembre en el Salón del Concilio en el Ayuntamiento de Lawrence. Cuatro horas y miles de dólares después, el total de votos obtenidos por Bárbara no cambió (602) mientras que Jorge perdió 5 votos.

El recuento, que de acuerdo con el Escribano de la Ciudad, William Maloney, costará entre \$3,000 y \$5,000, comenzó a las 10 de la mañana y terminó a las 2 de la tarde, con Delbys Cruz y Elena Burn contando y haciendo grupos de a cincuenta con las boletas, para facilitar el conteo de los votos.

En otra mesa, Annia Lemberg y Tarsha Hassam contaron los votos de cada candidato bajo la mirada

vigilante de Andrés Paniagua y Robert Beals por Bárbara González y Domingo Meléndez y Marilyn Núñez por Jorge González. Robert Beals es el esposo de Bárbara González.

Antes de comenzar el recuento, Bárbara González explicó que la razón por la que ella había pedido el recuento era que en su distrito había muchos votos en blanco. "Yo estoy buscando por 42 votos y espero encontrarlos entre esos votos en blanco", dijo Bárbara. "Algunas veces, el votante no marca su voto dentro del círculo y eso debe ser revisado", dijo.

VER GONZALEZ:
CONT. EN LA PÁGINA 4

Gonzalez won... again!

By Alberto Surís

The recount on the Gonzalez (Jorge) vs. Gonzalez (Barbara) was held on Tuesday, November 29, at Lawrence City Hall Council Chambers. Four hours and a few thousand dollars later, the total for Barbara didn't change (602) while Jorge lost 5 votes.

The recount, which City Clerk William Maloney estimates will cost the city between \$3,000 and \$5,000, started around 10 AM and lasted until 2PM, with Delbys Cruz and Elena Burn counting and making groups of fifty with the ballots, to make it easier for those who counted the votes.

At another table, Annia Lemberg and Tarsha Hassam counted the votes for each candidate under the watchful eye of Andres Paniagua and Robert

Beals for Barbara Gonzalez, and Domingo Melendez and Marilyn Nuñez for Jorge Gonzalez. Robert Beals is Barbara Gonzalez's husband.

Before the recount, Barbara Gonzalez explained that the reason for asking for a recount was because there were too many blanks in her district. "I'm looking for 42 votes and I hope we will find them among those blanks", said Barbara. "Sometimes, people don't put their marks inside the circle and all this need to be checked out", she said.

In a way, Barbara was right. She didn't gain a

SEE GONZALEZ:
CONT. ON PAGE 4

Rumbo

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Nueva directiva de AMEDAL

Por Alberto Surís

La Asociación de Ministros Evangélicos del Área de Lawrence, AMEDAL, escogió una nueva directiva, la cual fue juramentada el pasado miércoles, 23 de noviembre, en el salón principal de la Iglesia Ebenezer, situada la Calle Haverhill, en Lawrence.

El nuevo Presidente de AMEDAL, Rev. Víctor Jarvis, hizo uso de la palabra para saludar a los presentes y a la vez justificar la necesidad de AMEDAL en Lawrence. "En primer lugar, para bendecir a la ciudad", dijo el Pastor Jarvis que pasó a explicar que bendecir a la ciudad es, en primer término, mejorar la educación de nuestros niños. Para ello es necesario integrar a los padres, tutores y pastores, ya que en su opinión, no pueden estar ausentes del proceso de enseñanza.

De acuerdo con Jarvis, tenemos que cambiar el sistema de enseñanza aunque aclaró que no se trata de estar o no en contra del Superintendente Wilfredo Laboy, sino a aspirar a que nuestros niños sean capacitados, no solo para ocupar posiciones nimias. "Nuestros muchachos tienen que ser ingenieros, profesionales, no quiero que sigan trabajando en McDonald's. Si hemos venido aquí es para cambiar. Lawrence tiene que cambiar y nosotros tenemos que ser agentes de ese cambio", dijo.

El Pastor Jarvis fustigó a los políticos de Lawrence, calificándoles de "ineptos", los cuales mantienen la ciudad como una mendiga del estado y evitan que haya un



El Rev. José Reyes tomó juramento a la nueva directiva

Nueva directiva de Amedal, desde la izquierda: David Berroa, Relacionador Público; Rev. Victor Jarvis, Presidente; Rev. Pastor Blanco, Vicepresidente; Hna. Nancy Cruz, Secretaria; Rev. Juan Melo, Tesorero; Revs. Luis Leonor y José Santos, Jr. (ausente), Vocales.

cambio y que "sólo un grupito se beneficie y enriquezca de nuestra miseria y por ende es un gran negocio para ellos que Lawrence no salga de esta situación. "Hay quien quiere que sigamos contentos con limosnas", dijo.

La unidad pastoral, no quedó fuera de los puntos tratados por el Rev. Jarvis. El Pastor indicó que no importa la denominación, todas las iglesias deben trabajar unidas y que todos los hispanos

nos unamos ya que sin esa unidad, aunque él no pretende ser un profeta, profetizó que "un asiático va a ser alcalde antes que un hispano".

Jarvis expresó que la organización que él dirige trabajará para agrupar no tan solo a los hispanos sino a todas las etnias de la ciudad, por lo que deben cesar los insultos que se emiten por algunos medios de comunicación. El Pastor indicó que no es suficiente ser la mayoría, sino que todos

deben empujar del mismo lado para el bien de la ciudad.

Jarvis desde su púlpito pidió a los representantes de los medios de comunicación que los utilicen para educar, no para difamar. Jarvis terminó su alocución haciendo un llamado a los comerciantes para que sólo apoyen a aquellos programas que son edificantes y no a los vergonzosos. "Lawrence tiene que cambiar", terminó Jarvis.



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GONZALEZ:

CONT. DE LA PÁGINA 2

Hasta cierto punto, Bárbara tenía razón. Ella no ganó ningún voto pero cinco de los votos que habían sido adjudicados a su oponente, Jorge González, fueron ahora considerados en blanco. No lo suficiente para hacerla una ganadora. Al final del proceso, Jorge González expresó satisfacción con los resultados. "Yo no solicité el recuento, pero ahora no hay dudas de que yo gané", dijo sonriendo.

En su lugar, Bárbara no esperó por los resultados. Ella no estuvo presente cuando el Escribano de la Ciudad William Maloney anunció en alta voz los resultados. "Ella estaba aquí antes pero yo no sé dónde pueda estar ahora", dijo Robert Beals, el esposo de Bárbara González que dijo no saber si ella regresaría al ayuntamiento.

Tres días antes de las elecciones

| DISTRICT RECOUNT TOTALS | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|---------------|
| | TOTAL # OF VOTES | B. GONZÁLEZ | | J. GONZÁLEZ | | BLANKS | | OTHER | RECOUNT TOTAL |
| | | OE | R | OE | R | OE | R | | |
| C-1 | 462 | 210 | 209 | 187 | 184 | 65 | 67 | 2 | 462 |
| C-2 | 285 | 136 | 136 | 123 | 122 | 26 | 27 | | 285 |
| C-3 | 336 | 147 | 147 | 161 | 160 | 28 | 29 | | 336 |
| C-4 | 316 | 109 | 110 | 172 | 172 | 35 | 35 | | 317 |
| | 1,399 | 602 | 602 | 643 | 638 | 154 | 158 | 2 | 1,400 |

OE: OFFICIAL ELECTION TOTALS
R: RECOUNT TOTALS

finales, los Concejales Carlos Matos y Bárbara González llevaron a la ciudad ante los tribunales con el propósito de extender

el período de elecciones, debido a la impotencia de la ciudad de localizar a unos 8,000 votantes inactivos.

El Juez Federal Nathaniel Gorton denegó la moción, citando la confusión entre los votantes, como una de las razones para hacerlo. Este proceso costará a la

ciudad entre \$15,000 y \$20,000 en salarios de abogados y el caso, de acuerdo con el Escribano Maloney está todavía abierto. "Estos son estimados y ese costo puede aumentar", dijo Maloney. "Yo sabré con certeza una vez que reciba la cuenta de los abogados", dijo.

GONZALEZ:

CONT. FROM PAGE 2

vote, but 5 of the votes given to her opponent Jorge Gonzalez, now were considered blanks. Not enough to make her a winner. At the end of the process, Jorge Gonzalez expressed satisfaction with the results. "I didn't ask for the recount but now there is no doubt that I won", said with a smile in his face.

Barbara, instead, didn't wait for the results. She was not present when City Clerk William Maloney loudly announced the results. "She was here before, but I don't know where she is now", said Robert Beals, Barbara Gonzalez's husband who said he didn't know if she would come back.

Three days before the final election, Councilors Carlos Matos and Barbara Gonzalez took the city to court for the purpose of extending the voting hours due to the city's failure to locate some 8,000 inactive voters.

Federal Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton denied the motion, citing confusion among the voters, as one of the reasons for the denial. This process will cost the city between \$15,000 and \$20,000 in lawyers' fees, and the case, according to City Clerk Maloney is still open. "These are rough estimates but it may cost even more", said Maloney. "I will know for sure when I receive the lawyers' bill", he said.

Realizarán fiesta de recaudación de fondos

Por Beatriz Pérez

Por segunda ocasión, un lugar de la República Dominicana podrá disfrutar de una digna cena de Navidad, gracias a un grupo de dominicanos que han unido esfuerzos para recaudar fondos para este fin.

El evento que es organizado por el Consulado Dominicano de Boston y el Comité Pro Cena Navideña se va a llevar a cabo este próximo sábado en Galaxia Night Club, y será amenizado por el clásico del merengue Charlie Rodríguez "El León" y Omar Fernández. También *Alegría Típica Dominicana*, con el merengue autóctono de la República Dominicana, el merengue de Tierra Adentro.

El público se remontará al pasado con los grandes éxitos de Charlie Rodríguez. La mayoría de esos temas grabados durante el tiempo que permaneció con la orquesta del merengero dominicano Dionis Fernández, al igual que otros grabados luego de lanzarse como solista.

El objetivo de esta actividad es poder lograr fondos, con los cuales ofrecer una cena de Navidad a familias de bajos



recursos, en una ciudad, un municipio o un barrio de la República Dominicana. El lugar a realizarse la cena se escogerá en el desarrollo de la fiesta, luego de escribir el nombre del sitio de procedencia, de cada uno de los asistentes. Esto se hará

VER FIESTA:
CONT. EN LA PÁGINA 6

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El Club Kiwanis de Lawrence trajo una nueva tradición al Valle de Merrimack en el 2002 con "Santa Night" y desde entonces se ha convertido en un evento anual muy importante para los Kiwanis.

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El Poder del Gobierno Sobre la Propiedad Privada

Por Jorge L. Núñez



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gobierno determina que una propiedad privada es necesaria para beneficio público puede usar este poder para adquirirla aún cuando el dueño se oponga. Este poder puede ser preocupante para los propietarios de casas y los que están pensando comprar propiedades de bienes raíces.

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en la pérdida material sin tomar en cuenta los inconvenientes causados, ni daños emocionales.

Se considera como el precio justo en el mercado de una propiedad la cantidad que un comprador bien motivado y con toda la información necesaria estaría dispuesto a pagar y que el vendedor estaría dispuesto a aceptar, ambos actuando en su mejor interés, y con suficiente tiempo para considerar la transacción. Para determinar el precio en el mercado un tasador determina el uso máximo y más productivo de la propiedad permitido por la ley.

Recientemente, la Corte Suprema determinó que las ciudades pueden ejercer el poder de "eminent domain" para promover desarrollos económicos privados lo que ha traído calurosos debates y procesos legales. Ahora las ciudades pueden forzar a los propietarios a salir de sus propiedades para que compañías privadas puedan construir edificaciones

"Este es un país progresista que en algunas ocasiones tiene que hacer uso de propiedades privadas para mantener su proceso de desarrollo, pero lo que se hizo en mi caso fue una injusticia y mis derechos no fueron debidamente reconocidos, quizás por mi condición de ser hispano"

— Don Pedro González, un reconocido comerciante hispano de la ciudad de Springfield

más costosas que paguen más impuestos.

Ser despojado de una propiedad que usted no quiere vender puede ser frustrante, ya sea para ser sustituida por una edificación pública o privada, especialmente si usted no tiene voz ni voto en la determinación de lo que va a recibir de compensación.

Esta experiencia la vivió Don Pedro González, un reconocido comerciante hispano de la ciudad de Springfield. En 1987 Don Pedro compró un edificio de 6 familias localizado en el 24 de la calle Stafford en Springfield por 90 mil dólares. El edificio estaba en deplorables condiciones, necesitaba enormes trabajos de reparación y su precio estaba exorbitantemente alto con relación a los precios de ese tiempo.

Don Pedro vislumbraba las ganancias futuras y no la pérdida del momento. Por 5 años Don Pedro trabajó arduamente con los mejores electricistas, plomeros, albañiles y actualizó el sistema eléctrico, la plomería y cambió todas las ventanas, el techo, las paredes interiores, los baños, las cocinas, los pisos y la parte exterior del edificio.

Los gastos de reparación durante esos 5 años ascendieron a más de 120,000 dólares y miles de horas de trabajo, más los seguros y utilidades que se pagan mensual en una

propiedad de bienes raíces. La remodelación fue tan evidente que la compañía de seguros reevaluó la propiedad en 425,000 dólares para poder mantenerla asegurada y la porción rentada del edificio aumentó de un 60 a un 100 por ciento.

Fue entonces cuando Don Pedro recibió una carta notificándole que la propiedad había sido poseída bajo "eminent domain" para la construcción de una escuela y que tenía que dejar de cobrar la renta, luego recibió otra carta diciéndole que le iban a pagar 100 mil dólares por la propiedad.

"Yo no tengo la mínima idea cómo ellos decidieron que el valor de mi propiedad era solamente 100 mil dólares si propiedades de una sola familia y en malas condiciones que estaban al lado de la mía fueron evaluadas en 60 mil dólares", afirma Don Pedro y continúa explicando: "Este es un país progresista que en algunas ocasiones tiene que hacer uso de propiedades privadas para mantener su proceso de desarrollo, pero lo que se hizo en mi caso fue una injusticia y mis derechos no fueron debidamente reconocidos, quizás por mi condición de ser hispano".

En la actualidad, cuando Don Pedro pasa frente a la escuela que fue construida en el lugar donde estaba su edificio menciona con cierto tono de nostalgia la injusticia que significó el proceso de "eminent domain" para él.





Jorge L. Núñez es agente de bienes raíces para la compañía New World Real Estate, Inc. También tiene más de seis años de experiencia en una compañía de inversiones. Su teléfono es el (978) 457-5466.

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CONT. DE LA PÁGINA 4

en cada una de las boletas de entrada a la actividad, las cuales serán colocadas en una tómbola.

Es importante resaltar que el pasado año en un evento similar Andrés Gil, residente de esta ciudad y oriundo de Blanco Arriba, Tenares, municipio de Salcedo, ganó la oportunidad de realizar la cena. En esa ocasión varias familias sintieron de cerca la importancia del verdadero sentido de la Navidad, que es compartir en familia la alegría de estas fiestas.

Aparte de la cena, varias canastas de Navidad fueron entregadas de manos del Cónsul General de la República Dominicana en Boston, Dominico Cabral y el Vicecónsul Frank Tejeda, quienes viajaron junto con el ganador a su pueblo natal.

Alrededor de 500 personas disfrutaron de una suculenta cena, con todos los elementos característicos de la época.

Varios comerciantes y empresarios se han comprometido a auspiciar esta fiesta, que es un modo de dar las gracias a Dios por las bendiciones recibidas, tratando de no olvidar a los menos afortunados en un tiempo donde se recuerda el nacimiento del todopoderoso.



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Lantigua presenta proyecto de ley para apresurar resultados médicos

El Representante Estatal William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) ha presentado una legislación que requerirá a los médicos, centros de cuidado de la salud, u hospitales ordenando un análisis que notifiquen al paciente los resultados dentro del período de 96 horas después de recibirlo.

El proyecto de ley, co-auspiciado por el Representante Estatal David Torrisi de North Andover, fue presentado en nombre de Verónica Casado, una residente de Andover cuya salud se deterioró tras de su médico fue negligente proveyendo los resultados de una prueba de cáncer. Catorce meses después, ella fue diagnosticada con cáncer del seno.

"Si es aprobado, este proyecto de ley ayudará a establecer normas más estrictas para la notificación de los resultados de pruebas a nivel estatal," dijo Lantigua. "Es nuestra esperanza que esta ley ayudará a asegurar que otros pacientes no tendrán que pasar por esta experiencia y los problemas que ahora Verónica Casado enfrenta, problemas causados directamente por la negligencia de la oficina que ordenó el análisis."

La Sra. Casado dice que su médico de cabecera ordenó un monograma al descubrir una pelotita en su seno izquierdo en abril del 2004. Las semanas y los meses pasaron y Verónica no supo los resultados de la prueba.

"Nunca me enteré y asumí que todo andaba bien", dijo Casado. Cuando se dio cuenta que la pelota había crecido en tamaño la primavera pasada, fue a ver al médico de nuevo. Casado fue diagnosticada con cáncer del seno en junio, y está actualmente bajo tratamiento de quimioterapia.

Lantigua mencionó que la preocupación asociada con el análisis aumenta después de habérselo hecho. El cita esta ansiedad como la principal razón para buscar que los resultados sean notificados a los pacientes dentro de cuatro días de ser recibidos por quien lo ordenó.

"Aún si todo sale bien, uno quiere saber los resultados", dijo Lantigua. "Usted sigue preguntándose, '¿Estaré bien?'"

"Es nuestra esperanza que esta ley ayudará a asegurar que otros pacientes no tendrán que pasar por esta experiencia y los problemas que ahora Verónica Casado enfrenta, problemas causados directamente por la negligencia de la oficina que ordenó el análisis."

— Representante Estatal William Lantigua

Casado piensa que su condición pudiera haber sido diferente si su doctor le hubiese reportado los resultados a tiempo.

"Yo no tendría que atravesar esto si ellos hubiesen hecho lo que les correspondía hacer", dijo ella. "Me hubieses podido remover el quiste entonces y probablemente no tendría que tener los tratamientos de quimioterapia ahora."

Verónica piensa que el estrés del diagnóstico y los tratamientos que le siguieron fueron la causa de que se separaran ella y su esposo. La incertidumbre de su futuro y de sus tres hijos que ahora ella está criando sola, nunca están lejos de su mente. Aún así, mantiene la esperanza de que su epopeya ayude

educando sobre los problemas que pueden resultar de la demora en reportar los resultados de un análisis.

"Me alegro que esto esté pasando por una razón", dijo Casado. "Si mi situación cambia el sistema requiriéndoles que reporten los resultados en 96 horas, entonces algo bueno habrá salido."

Lantigua alabó a Casado por su esfuerzo llamando la atención a tan serio problema.

"Yo admiro mucho la fortaleza de Verónica y su valor en un momento tan difícil", dijo Lantigua. "Yo oro por ella y por su familia. Lo que le pasó a ella no debe repetirse. Si lo aprueban, esta ley garantizará que no sucederá de nuevo."

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Camilo Mejía se alistó al Ejército de EEUU y a la Guardia Nacional para conseguir dinero para la universidad. Él pasó más de siete años en las FFAA y ocho meses peleando en Irak donde participó en combate, vio la matanza de civiles, y fue testigo al abuso de prisioneros. Al salir de licencia en Estados Unidos, Mejía se negó regresar a Irak. Él se entregó a las autoridades en marzo del 2004 y recibió una sentencia de un año en cárcel. Lo soltaron en febrero del 2005.

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2:30 PM

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Mensajes del Departamento de Correos

¡SEA CONSCIENTE CON SU CARTERO!

Por este medio, el Departamento de Correos solicita la cooperación de la ciudadanía para que mantengan las aceras limpias de nieve y hielo, así como las entradas de los edificios, para que los carteros puedan llevar a cabo su labor con seguridad y eficiencia.

¡ENVÍE SU CORREO TEMPRANO!

Navidades y Año Nuevo es la época más ocupada para los empleados del Departamento de Correos. Cada año, el volumen de correspondencia aumenta y este año no es una excepción, por lo que el Jefe del Departamento de Correos Joseph J. Fanciullo, exhorta a la ciudadanía a no esperar hasta última hora para enviar sus regalos a sus seres queridos, así como sus tarjetas de navidad.

Según Fanciullo, entre los días 25 de noviembre y 31 de diciembre, el correo procesa unos 20 billones de piezas entre cartas y paquetes, y aunque el Departamento de Correos ha tomado todas las medidas pertinentes para hacer sus entregas a tiempo, siempre es recomendable que los usuarios del correo lleven sus envíos lo antes posible.

Institución financiera sirviendo a la comunidad general

Hace más de 50 años, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union comenzó a servir al Valle de Merrimack con productos y servicios que la hicieron la institución exitosa que hoy es. Mientras que los empleados de Western Electric, AT&T y Lucent Technologies continúan siendo el grueso de sus miembros, más de 200 compañías se les han unido para proveer a sus empleados las mismas ventajas.

Ahora, la Asociación Nacional de Cooperativas de Crédito ha aprobado un cambio haciéndola una institución comunitaria, lo cual le permite expandir sus servicios a un área más amplia. Este cambio significa que la sociedad ahora estará abierta a cualquier persona que viva, trabaje, practique una religión o asista a una escuela en el Valle de Merrimack, así como cualquier negocio u otra entidad local en esa área, para que puedan recibir los beneficios financieros al poder pertenecer a una cooperativa de crédito.

Como parte del crecimiento que Merrimack Valley FCU está atravesando en años recientes, ellos han comprado 40,000 pies cuadrados para establecer sus oficinas corporativas en Lawrence, MA en el Riverwalk en Merrimack Street y planean construir una sucursal de 4,000 pies cuadrados en el 500 de Merrimack Street. La mudanza tendrá lugar en unos 18 meses.

“Ahora que Merrimack Valley FCU puede abrir sus puertas a todas las personas en el Valle de Merrimack, nos sentimos

confiados en nuestra habilidad de hacer la diferencia en el futuro financiero de las familias en nuestra comunidad,” dijo el Presidente y CEO Peter J. Matthews, Jr. “Con cuatro sucursales en North Andover, Haverhill y Methuen y una quinta abriendo en Plaistow a principios del 2006, estamos bien equipados para enfrentar las demandas de los nuevos miembros al igual que los que ya tenemos.”

Mejor conocida por el alto nivel de satisfacción por parte de sus miembros, el cual tiene un promedio de 94% en su encuesta anual, y habiendo ganado el Premio Diamante del 2005 de CUNA por

Mercadeo y el Massachusetts Performance Excellence de 2005 por su compromiso a mejorar la calidad, la cooperativa de crédito tiene la meta de conservar un bajo costo y alta satisfacción.

Con más de 43,000 miembros, Merrimack Valley FCU ofrece cheques gratis, la facilidad de hacer sus transacciones bancarias por la Internet de gratis, pago de cuentas gratis y una amplia gama de préstamos al consumidor y de bienes raíces a las tarifas y términos más competitivos. Merrimack Valley FCU se enfoca en servir las necesidades de cada miembro individualmente, uno a la vez.

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Presentaciones artísticas en Factory Jazz Project

MILI BERMEJO REGRESA A LAWRENCE

Hay dos magníficas presentaciones preparadas para el viernes, 9 de diciembre a las 7:00 PM en Factory Jazz Project con el retorno de Mili Bermejo. Mili regresa al escenario del 60 de Island St., Lawrence. La última vez que vino dejó al público tan fascinado que tuvieron que invitarla de nuevo.

Durante los últimos veinte años, la cantante, compositora y profesora de Berklee Collage of Music ha trascendido las barreras entre los géneros culturales y musicales. Añadiendo música auténtica latina a ideas clásicas y entretrejiendo la diversidad de la música afrocubana de Dizzy Gillespie con los intereses sociales de Abbey Lincoln, ella ha creado su propia mezcla de jazz ecléctico. Según el crítico Bob Blumenthal, "Es así donde el jazz se une al latino con elegancia y profundidad del alma". Su música es innovadora mientras

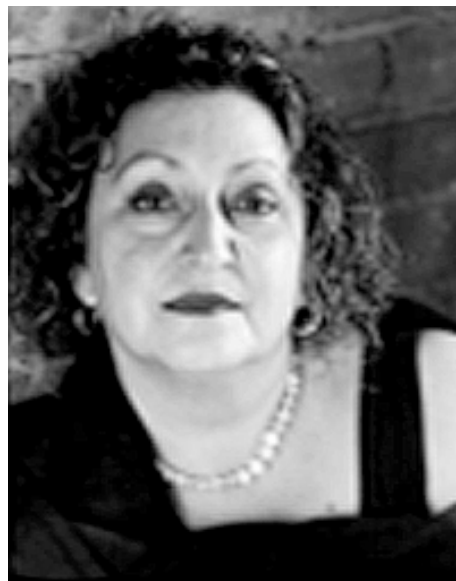
que honra la riqueza musical.

EXHIBICIÓN DE ALAN BULL

El gran pintor y maestro Alan Bull estará exhibiendo sus trabajos como la primera de muchas presentaciones futuras en el 60 de Island St., Lawrence, desde las 5:00 a las 7:00 PM.

Alan Bull es un artista que divide su tiempo entre Greenport, NY y Newburyport, MA y quien es conocido por sus imágenes de gran colorido en diferentes tipos de medios incluyendo watercolors, aceites, acrílicos y pasteles. Originalmente de Old Town, Maine, él recibió su Bachillerato en Bellas Artes de Philadelphia College of Art, trabajando como muralista y portrait artist antes de tener la oportunidad de trabajar como asistente del gran escultor de cristal Dan Dailey en Amesbury, MA.

En 1992 dejó el estudio de Dailey para crear una serie para Fox Graphics en



Mili Bermejo

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Oportunidad para ser voluntario

El Programa de Voluntarios de la Asociación de Enfermeras Visitantes de Home Health está creciendo y están

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Estas asignaciones pueden variar

"Hemos tenido una respuesta magnífica a nuestro programa de voluntarios. Hay mucho talento en nuestras comunidades y nos complace enormemente ver como este programa crece con tan buenos voluntarios"

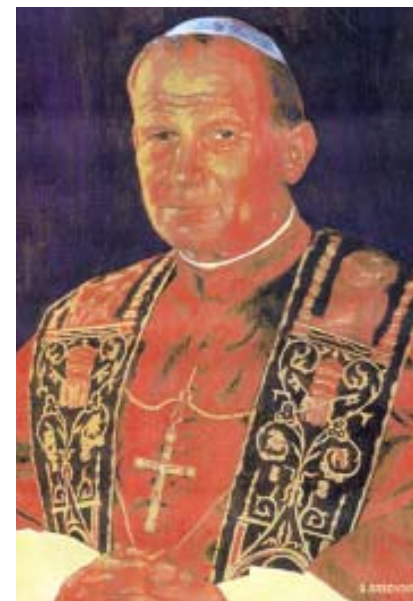
— **Remi Sánchez,**
coordinadora de voluntarios
de Home Health VNA

desde planear eventos para recaudar fondos, proveer compañía a ancianos que no pueden salir de sus casas, o participar en el Programa Voces Amistosas, el cual consiste de hacer llamadas telefónicas a personas mayores que estén encerradas en casa. También pueden utilizar sus destrezas de oficina ayudando con envíos de correos o asistiendo en la oficina.

"Hemos tenido una respuesta magnífica a nuestro programa de voluntarios," dijo Remi Sánchez, coordinadora de voluntarios de Home Health VNA. "Hay mucho talento en nuestras comunidades y nos complace enormemente ver como este programa crece con tan buenos voluntarios."

Quienes estén interesados en ser voluntarios de Home Health VNA puede ponerse en contacto con Remi Sánchez al (978) 552-4528 o por correo electrónico a rsanchez@homehealthfoundation.org

Home Health VNA es una agencia sin fines lucrativos afiliada a Merrimack Valley Hospice y HomeCare, Inc. Juntos, las tres agencias sirven a más de 80 comunidades a través del Valle de Merrimack, el noreste de Massachusetts y el sur de New Hampshire. Home Health VNA tiene oficinas en Lawrence, Haverhill, Newburyport, Peabody y Chelmsford.



RIFA A BENEFICIO DEL LAWRENCE SENIOR CENTER

Este cuadro, del recién fallecido Papa John Paul II, donado por el pintor del Senior Center Bernie Greenside, será rifado durante la próxima fiesta de Navidad, el día 16 de diciembre, 2005. Las papeletas para la rifa pueden ser adquiridas por \$1.00 cada una, en el Lawrence Senior Center, localizado en el #155 de la Calle Haverhill, en Lawrence.

RAFFLE TO BENEFIT THE LAWRENCE SENIOR CENTER

This portrait of the late Pope John Paul II donated for Lawrence Senior Center Painter Bernie Greenside, will be raffled during the Christmas Party on December 16th, 2005. Tickets for the raffle can be bought for \$1.00 each at Lawrence Senior Center, 155 Haverhill Street, Lawrence.

Hágase de una Página de Web Hoy
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CIUDAD DE LAWRENCE
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A los residentes de la Ciudad de Lawrence:
Favor de estar pendientes a la última fecha de **recogida de desechos de patio** que será el **viernes 2 de diciembre**.

Por favor, **saquen sus hojas con tiempo**. Debido a la gran cantidad de hojas, al acercarse el final del otoño, la colección podría ser atrasada, pero serán recogidas.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor, siéntase libre de llamar al coordinador de reciclaje en el Departamento de Obras Públicas.

Gracias por anticipado por su cooperación. ¡Deseamos a todos unos felices días de fiestas!

Prórrogas automáticas de seis meses estarán disponibles para la mayoría de contribuyentes en el 2006

WASHINGTON — Los contribuyentes podrán solicitar una prórroga automática de seis meses para presentar sus impuestos, para la mayoría de declaraciones de personas naturales y empresas, según las nuevas normas del Departamento del Tesoro y el Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS).

Las nuevas normas ofrecen procedimientos simplificados que se espera ahorren a los contribuyentes entre \$73 millones y \$94 millones al año, eliminando o consolidando varias de las formas que el IRS utiliza. Como resultado, empezando el 1 de enero de 2006, la mayoría de personas y empresas podrán solicitar una prórroga de seis meses para presentar su declaración, sin dar un motivo o siquiera su firma.

Los nuevos procedimientos reemplazarán el proceso de dos pasos por el que los contribuyentes que no tienen relación con corporaciones sólo podían recibir una prórroga de seis meses consiguiendo primero una prórroga—usualmente automática—para parte de este periodo y luego solicitando una prórroga discrecional para el resto del tiempo. Una prórroga de declaración de impuestos no posterga la fecha límite de pago de impuestos.

“Algunos contribuyentes necesitan seis meses completos de prórroga como lo provee la ley. Este cambio simplifica el proceso para que puedan hacer la solicitud una sola vez, no dos veces”, dijo el Comisionado del IRS Mark W. Everson.

Empezando con las declaraciones del 2005 que se presentan en el 2006, las personas podrán utilizar una sola forma del IRS (Forma 4868) para recibir una prórroga automática de seis meses para declarar. Esto reemplazará el proceso actual de dos pasos por el que una prórroga automática brindaba sólo cuatro meses, por lo general hasta el 15 de agosto. Si se requería más tiempo, el contribuyente debía explicar el motivo en

“Algunos contribuyentes necesitan seis meses completos de prórroga como lo provee la ley. Este cambio simplifica el proceso para que puedan hacer la solicitud una sola vez, no dos veces”

— **Mark W. Everson,**
Comisionado del IRS

una segunda forma de solicitud de prórroga (Forma 2688). Cerca del 6% de contribuyentes individuales solicitaban la prórroga inicial de cuatro meses, y alrededor de un tercio de ellos solicitaban una segunda prórroga, normalmente de dos meses hasta el 15 de octubre. La forma 2688 será eliminada.

Los procedimientos también serán simplificados para las empresas contribuyentes, eliminando así tres formas. Actualmente, sólo las corporaciones pueden solicitar una prórroga automática de seis meses para declarar impuestos. Las nuevas regulaciones también ofrecerán esta opción a la mayoría de contribuyentes de empresas que no son corporativas, incluyendo sociedades y fondos.

Así, a partir del 1 de enero, todos los contribuyentes empresariales usarán la Forma 7004 para solicitar una prórroga automática de seis meses para presentar su declaración. Antes, los contribuyentes de empresas no corporativas debían solicitar una prórroga inicial de tres meses y de necesitar más tiempo solicitar entonces otros tres meses.

La Decisión del Tesoro 9229 (*Treasury Decision 9229*) está disponible en el sitio de Internet del IRS, IRS.gov, y será publicada el 7 de noviembre de 2005 en el Registro Federal.

Cartas al Editor

Latinos Unidos de New Hampshire Elige Nuevo Comité Ejecutivo

Deseamos informarles que durante las pasadas elecciones, Latinos Unidos de New Hampshire seleccionó su nuevo comité ejecutivo que estará llevando a cabo las actividades relacionadas con esta organización para este próximo año del Séptimo Festival Latino de New Hampshire a llevarse a cabo el día 19 de agosto de 2006.

El Nuevo Comité Ejecutivo esta compuesto de las siguientes personas: Presidente, Wanda Caraballo; Vice-Presidente, Pablo Marrero; Tesorero, José Parra; Secretaria, Jimary Feliciano.

Personalmente deseo expresar mi agradecimiento a toda nuestra comunidad latina, nuestros patrocinadores, INTOWN MANCHESTER, al gobierno de la Ciudad de Manchester, el gobierno de New Hampshire y los miembros del comité LUNH por el apoyo brindado a nuestra

organización durante el pasado año. Les agradezco por la oportunidad que me brindaron de poder servir a nuestra comunidad durante este pasado año como Presidenta de esta organización. Definitivamente, esta ha sido una experiencia de mucho aprendizaje para mí. Atesoro la experiencia de haber podido compartir con ustedes durante nuestras actividades y les pido que continúen apoyando a nuestro comité y a su nuevo comité ejecutivo para poder continuar logrando las metas tan valiosas de nuestra organización.

Saludos y mi mayor agradecimiento para ustedes.

Sinceramente,

Sonia Parra, Presidente
Latinos Unidos de New Hampshire

CARTAS AL EDITOR

Dirección: 315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843
Correo Electrónico: rumbo@rumbonews.com

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¡Baje de Peso! Luzca de maravilla

Gracias a la Mesoterapia Disuelva la grasa sin liposucción

¿Qué es la Mesoterapia? ¿Cómo funciona? "Meso" en griego significa medio y mesoterapia es la estimulación de los tejidos medios de la piel. Esta es la más moderna técnica para luchar contra la grasa.

Mesoterapia es un tratamiento prácticamente sin dolor que emplea múltiples microinyecciones superficiales usando pequeñas dosis de una combinación de drogas farmacéuticas aprobadas por la FDA y compuestos homeopáticos conteniendo plantas naturales, extractos, antioxidantes, vitaminas y aminoácidos en la capa mesodérmica (la capa media) de la piel.



Antes

Después

Mesoterapia, un tratamiento sin dolor que consiste en unas micro inyecciones que se aplica a las áreas que quiera reducir y ataca los tejidos adiposos. Con tan solo 4 tratamientos, el cambio es notable en las caderas y los muslos.

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Anuncian jornada de recogida de alimentos para personas de bajos recursos



Linda Zimmerman



Bridget Shaheen



Mayor Michael Sullivan

Por Beatriz Pérez

No olvidar a quienes por circunstancias especiales carecen de los recursos necesarios para disfrutar en familia de una cena de Navidad, es la razón fundamental de que cada año la Ciudad de Lawrence realice una jornada de recolección de alimentos para ser entregados a los menos afortunados, los que podrán llevar a la mesa una cena en esta época donde la alegría y la tranquilidad deben de reinar en todos los hogares del mundo.

El anuncio oficial de la recolección de alimentos se llevó a cabo en el primer piso del ayuntamiento la pasada semana.

Como es costumbre los alimentos serán entregados a instituciones sin fines de lucro que existen en la ciudad, a fin de que las mismas las entreguen de acuerdo a su criterio a personas necesitadas.

Se acepta comida enlatada, arroz, aceite, pastas, etcétera. Las personas interesadas en hacer donaciones pueden llevarlas a la alcaldía.

Aparte de la comida se aceptan cheques por valor de \$15, los que habrán de emitirse a nombre de Colony Food.

Representantes de las organizaciones Lazarus House y Neighbors in Need, entidades que serán beneficiadas con los alimentos para que los entreguen a personas de bajos

recursos.

El Alcalde de la Ciudad Michael J. Sullivan motivó la jornada diciendo que es importante que en estas fechas recordemos a los que carecen de lo más elemental para celebrar la Navidad junto a su familia.

De acuerdo al jefe municipal, con cada donación se está contribuyendo a que muchas familias vean un poco de luz al final del túnel, en una fecha tan significativa, donde la alegría debe de reinar.

Presentes en el "Food Drive Kick-off" Linda Zimmerman, directora ejecutiva de Neighbors in Need y Bridget Shaheen de Lazarus House.

Los interesados en hacer donaciones pueden comunicarse a la oficina de la alcaldía al 978-794-5858.

Aparte de la iniciativa de recolección de alimentos, la ciudad ha puesto en marcha también el "Toys for Tots", donde la idea es recolectar la mayor cantidad de juguetes para entregar a niños de familias de bajos recursos.

Las personas interesadas pueden llevar su donación a la alcaldía y para ello tienen hasta el 16 de diciembre.

Se está pidiendo que los juguetes no sean envueltos.

La educación para Séneca

Por Arturo García Ramo
aramo@adigital.pntic.mec.es
www.aplicaciones.info

En tiempos de Séneca los retóricos ocupaban su tiempo en discutir por el placer de discutir, buscando argumentos y defendiéndolos con elocuencia y brillantez. Pero se quedaban cortos: no buscaban la verdad, se quedaban en la discusión.

El filósofo cordobés Séneca sostenía que había que educar para la vida. Es célebre su frase: "Aprendemos para la vida y no para la escuela". Proponía que la enseñanza y la educación tuvieran un fin práctico. Por una parte formar profesionales que aprendieran a trabajar de forma competente en un oficio y por otra parte, formas ciudadanos que aprendieran a convivir participando con provecho en la vida social.

Séneca también propone un cambio de método. No interesa tanto llenar la cabeza de muchos conocimientos sino formarla con equilibrio, orden y prudencia, conforme a la virtud.

Para el filósofo de Córdoba vivir conforme a la virtud tiene tres características: vivir la coherencia, que consiste en la unidad entre el pensamiento y la conducta; vivir con autenticidad o fidelidad consigo mismo y con la propia vocación; y por último, vivir para la solidaridad en la vida social.

Séneca nos propone seis medios para

No interesa tanto llenar la cabeza de muchos conocimientos sino formarla con equilibrio, orden y prudencia, conforme a la virtud.

conseguir su ideal:

- 1.- El buen ejemplo de los educadores, tanto de los padres como de los profesores. Decía: "Largo es el camino de los preceptos, pero breve y eficaz el de los ejemplos".
- 2.- Reducir las necesidades del cuerpo, viviendo la sobriedad y la austeridad de costumbres.
- 3.- Poner orden en la propia vida. "Es grave mal para el cuerpo, y frecuentemente para el alma, hacer del día noche y contra toda razón natural, convertir la noche en día".
- 4.- Seleccionar las lecturas. "La muchedumbre de libros carga y no enseña, y así te será más seguro entregarte a pocos autores que errar siguiendo a muchos".
- 5.- Tener buenos amigos. "Busca a aquellos que puedan hacerte mejor y recibe también a quienes puedes tú mejorar. Esto es recíproco, los hombres aprenden cuando enseñan".
- 6.- Fomentar la exigencia personal para formar el carácter. "La educación austera robustece el ánimo y la hace capaz de grandes empresas".

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11 de diciembre, 2005 al mediodía



Celebrates the Fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 11, 2005 At noon

Fiesta Cultural (Cultural Fiesta) 2:00 PM
Centro de Santa Ana (St. Anne Center)
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Comida (food) Música (music) Baile (dance)
Bailes folklóricos (Folkloric dancing)

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MVCC Update

MIXER AT THE CHATEAU

One of the best Chamber mixers so far this year was the one recently held at The Chateau on Tuesday, November 22nd. It was an excellent opportunity to meet old friends, networking while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres. The Chateau is located at 131 River Road, in Andover.



Garry M. Coon, Regional Director LeTip International, Inc.; Rick Livingstone, Livingstone Corp.; Alix Porras, Alix Porras Fine Arts; Orlando Salazar, MVCC Board Member and Owner, Orlando Salazar Photography and Rose Gershon, Pre-Paid Legal Services, enjoying the mixer.



Dan Janco with his daughter Ann Marie Concheri. Concheri is a full-time hostess at The Chateau. Janco soon will be retiring from the US Postal Service to join WCCM-AM1490 as a consultant.



Sarah Connection, Y reason f \$1,000 for sig members du drive. With Orlando



Joseph Bevilacqua, President/CEO MVCC with Judy Gaffny, from Scott Co., Haverhill.

WINE TASTING, DINNER AND MUSIC



The Lowell Gentlemen Songsters, Tony Silvia, Daniel Washington, Scott Round and Cy Kendrick entertaining guests Vincent Carter, Dale Dyer, Wil Carpenter, Vice President MVCC and Joe Adrian.

On Friday, October 14, 2005, the MVCC held their annual wine tasting, dinner and music function at Indian Ridge Country Club, in Andover, sponsored by Devine, Millimet & Branch.

Chamber's friends and associates were entertained by The Lowell Gentlemen Songsters and Joe Adrian, from corporate Success Consulting and his piano.



Enjoying the evening are Toni and Joseph Bevilacqua, with Maria Bevilacqua and Steven Stanton.



Lou Chakalos, Manuel Ferreira, Jr. (former Lawrence Election Division Coordinator) and Kate McDown, from Chakalos & Associates Attorneys At Law, with Joseph Bevilacqua.



Gurule, Community Yellow Pages, has a for smiling: she won gning the most new rring a recent MVCC her, Wil Carpenter, Salazar and Joseph Bevilacqua.

MIXER AT CHINA BLOSSOM

On Tuesday, October 25th, 2005, the MVCC held a well attended mixer at China Blossom Restaurant, located at 946 Osgood Street (Rte 125) N. Andover. Members enjoyed mouth watering samples of their varied menu.



Wil Carpenter, Vice-President, MVCC; Connie Yee, China Blossom Hostess; Joseph Bevilacqua, MVCC President and CEO and James Koury.



Janet Urban, The Chateau Assistant General Manager, with Joseph Bevilacqua, MVCC President and CEO and Wilfred N. Carpenter, MVCC Vice President, Sales and Service



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JEAN ACEVEDO

Merrimack Valley FCU Approved for Community Charter

Merrimack Valley FCU focuses on serving individual members' needs, one member at a time.

Over 50 years ago, the Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union started serving the Merrimack Valley with products and services that made them the successful institution they have become. While the employees of the former Western Electric, AT&T or Lucent Technologies remain the stronghold of their membership, over 200 companies have joined their ranks giving their employees the same advantages.

Now, the National Credit Union Association has approved a change in charter thus becoming a community credit union, allowing them to expand their services to a broader area. This change means that membership will now be open to persons who live, work, worship or attend school in the Merrimack Valley, as well as businesses and other local entities located in that area, to receive the financial benefits of belonging to a credit union.

As part of the growth Merrimack Valley FCU has been experiencing in recent years, they recently purchased a new 40,000 square foot corporate headquarters in Lawrence, MA at the Riverwalk on Merrimack Street and plan to build a 4,000 square foot retail branch at 500 Merrimack Street. The move will take place in about 18 months.

"Now that Merrimack Valley FCU can open its doors to all individuals in the Merrimack Valley, we feel confident in our ability to make a difference in the financial futures of the families in our community," said President and CEO Peter J. Matthews, Jr. "With four branches throughout North Andover, Haverhill and Methuen and our fifth branch opening in Plaistow in early 2006, we are well equipped to meet the demands of our new and existing members."

Best known for its high member satisfaction ratio, which averages 94% in their annual survey, and also for winning the 2005 CUNA Marketing and Business Development Diamond Award and the 2005 Massachusetts Performance Excellence Award for their commitment to quality improvement, the credit union is focused on low cost and high satisfaction.

With over 43,000 members, Merrimack Valley FCU offers free checking, free online banking, free bill payment and a wide range of consumer and real estate loans at the most competitive rates and terms available. Merrimack Valley FCU focuses on serving individual members' needs, one member at a time.

Lantigua bill seeks prompt return of medical test results

State Representative William Lantigua (D-Lawrence) has filed legislation that would require any physician, health care facility, or hospital ordering a medical test to notify the patient of the results within 96 hours of receiving them.

The bill, co-sponsored by Rep. David Torrisi of North Andover, was filed in the name of Veronica Casado, an Andover resident whose health deteriorated after her doctor failed to provide the results of a cancer screening test. Fourteen months later, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"If passed, this bill will help establish stricter standards for the return of test results statewide," Lantigua said. "It is our hope that this law will help ensure that other patients won't have to experience the problems now facing Veronica Casado, problems caused directly by the negligence of the office that ordered her tests."

Casado said her primary care physician ordered a sonogram after she discovered a lump in her left breast in April 2004. As weeks and months passed, Casado said, she still had not received the results of the test.

"I never heard back, so I assumed everything was all right," Casado said. When she determined that the lump had grown in size last spring, she scheduled another consultation. Casado was diagnosed with breast cancer in June, and is currently undergoing chemotherapy treatments.

Lantigua noted that the worry associated with a medical test is most heightened in the days immediately after the test is performed. He cited this anxiety as one reason he is seeking to have results reported to patients within four days of their being received by the party ordering the test.

"Even if everything turns out all right, you still want to know," Lantigua said. "You're still wondering, 'Am I OK?'"

Casado said she believes her condition could have been different had her doctor simply reported the results of the sonogram in a timely manner.

"I wouldn't have had to go through this if they'd done what they should have done," she said. "I would have had the lump removed then, and I probably wouldn't be having chemotherapy now."

Casado said that the stress of her diagnosis and subsequent treatments has

led her to separate from her husband. The uncertainty surrounding her future, and that of the three children she is now raising on her own, is never far from her mind. Still, she said, she is hopeful that her ordeal will help raise awareness of the problems that can result from a delay in the reporting of test results.

"I'm so glad this is happening for a reason," said Casado. "If my situation can change the system by requiring doctors to

report test results within 96 hours, then some good will come out of it."

Lantigua commended Casado for her effort to draw attention to a serious problem.

"I'm amazed by Veronica's strength and courage in this extremely difficult time," Lantigua said. "My prayers are with her and her family."

"What happened to her shouldn't happen to anyone. If passed, this law will help guarantee that it won't."

Ocasio's Turkey Brigade

For the past twelve years, Ocasio's True Martial Arts in Haverhill, has been organizing the donation and delivery of Thanksgiving dinners for needy families in the entire Merrimack Valley.

Over 100 volunteers offered their time to put together baskets of complete meals including a turkey and others deliver them to the homes in their own cars.

For the third consecutive year, Merrimack Valley Federal Credit Union has sent a contingent of employees who volunteer to spend the day unloading trucks, packing and delivering bundles making people happy.

Herman Ocasio has been in business for over 20 years at 50 Merrimack St. This year, 365 families received a Thanksgiving dinner provided by Ocasio's True Martial Arts and they



MVFCU President Peter Matthews and Kim Ocasio getting baskets ready.

estimate that in these twelve years, they have distributed over 3,200 baskets.



MVFCU employees, from the left: Andrea Burchill, Terri Rousseau, Bill Betton, Peter Matthews, Joe Callery, John MacDonald and Dale Dyer.



the
Groundwork Lawrence
GLOW GALA

Please join us at
the Essex Art Center
for an evening of
food, drink, art,
and live music!

Save the Date!

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Invitations to follow...

Help us celebrate
another year of successful
projects, partnerships, and programs.

Support Groundwork Lawrence while
sampling the flavors of
Lawrence's restaurants,
bidding on lanterns
made by local artists,
and entering to win
fantastic prizes at the
door!



Groundwork Lawrence, 60 Island Street, Lawrence, MA 01840

EVENSTART FAMILY LITERACY

Registrations are now being taken for an Evenstart Family Literacy program that combines parents/caretakers learning English and parenting skills, preschoolers ages 2 and a half to five years old learning school readiness skills and parents and children learning together.

The Asian Center at 1 Ballard Way, Lawrence, MA 01843 is offering this morning program free of charge. Anyone interested in finding out more details, call the Asian Center at (978) 683-7316 or check out the Asian Center's website at www.asiancentermv.org.

NECC and Suffolk University Present Free Forum on Municipal Finance

Incoming mayors and other elected officials, municipal employees and interested taxpayers are invited to attend a free forum on municipal finance on Thursday, December 8 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Northern Essex Community College's

Haverhill Campus.

Sponsored by the college and Suffolk University's Graduate Programs in North Andover, the forum is designed to give cities and towns tools that will help them manage their budgets and maximize limited resources

by identifying innovative funding opportunities. Two panels comprised of former and current municipal, government and community leaders will share their expertise and present best practices in municipal finance.

The first panel will discuss key issues to consider about financial administration and municipal management. The second panel will address performance and accountability management and strategies for demonstrating leadership and effective planning to meet performance goals.

Topics to be covered will include creating, balancing, and administering a municipal budget, performance and accountability management, managing skyrocketing health and pension costs, maximizing the financial benefits of working as a region, reducing ongoing expenses, and more.

The forum represents the first collaborative municipal event sponsored jointly by Suffolk University's Graduate Programs in North Andover and Northern Essex Community College. The program will be held in Room 103B of Northern Essex's Technology Center, which is located on the Haverhill Campus, 100 Elliott St. To attend, contact Heather Hewitt, Suffolk University at 978-837-5143 or hhewitt@suffolk.edu or Donna Holloran, Northern Essex Community College, at 978-556-3921 or dholloran@necc.mass.edu.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2005



Fun In The Loop Neighborhood

5:00 to 5:30pm.

SANTA NIGHT "KICK-OFF"

Come one, come all to The Loop neighborhood's fun-filled Holiday event!
MUSIC & SINGING
GIVEAWAYS
FREE DRAWINGS!

5:30 to 6:00pm.

"KAZOO-A-LING" WITH SANTA'S HELPERS

(Loews Theatres - courtyard)

Don't worry about your musical ability. Everyone can use a kazoo... and our Kiwanis Club "carolers" need all the help they can get!

KAZOO PARADE

Bring friends, neighbors & family members. Join in the fun as we escort Santa's Kiwanis Club "Helpers" from The Loop to Santa's waiting "sleigh" at Walmart!

6:00 to 8:00pm.

PHOTOS WITH FROSTY & THE GRINCH

(Methuen Walmart)

Stop by for a Holiday souvenir photograph. 80% of photo sale monies collected will be donated to Santa Night!
 \$5.00 (photo + remembrance frame)

Remember: Friday, Dec. 9, 2005

See you there!

EVENT HOSTS



What Is "SANTA NIGHT"?

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Lawrence brought SANTA NIGHT to the Merrimack Valley in 2002 and since then it has become an important annual Kiwanis fundraiser.

Their goal? To raise funds for the Greater Lawrence Boys & Girls Club's "Aquatic Safety" program and to help teach children water and ice safety at a young age.

More than forty Santa's Helpers (with or without singing ability) ride the Kiwanis "sleigh" to pre-designated Valley pubs and restaurants where they pick up pledges and sing carols.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Attend SANTA NIGHT on December 9th in The Loop Neighborhood (5-8 pm).

Start at the courtyard in front of Loews Theatres for kazoo-a-ling...join the kazoo parade through The Loop to Walmart. Then have souvenir pictures of the kids taken with Frosty or The Grinch.

Make a contribution when you see the SANTA NIGHT singers.

Help fill those buckets with \$\$ when the Santa's Helpers visit your restaurant or pub on December 9th.

Join our SANTA NIGHT singers next year.

Simply raise \$200 in pledges from co-workers, friends, family or business associates and you will be eligible to ride the Kiwanis "sleigh" in 2006.

For more information on SANTA NIGHT, contact:

Jeffrey Shank – (978) 691-5005
jshank@andoveradvisorygroup.com

Or,

www.santanight.com/lawrence

Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition LMCC continues tradition of Holiday Baskets

After one year in which the LMCC suffered a devastating fire that destroyed the offices of the community coalition, LMCC continues to operate and assist families with family support services.

Thanks to the generosity of local developer Bob Ansin, LMCC will again this year offer Holiday Baskets to families in need. This year over 100 baskets will be distributed to families identified by local neighborhood leaders who will be given baskets along with families involved with the Massachusetts Department of Social Services.

On Monday December 21st at 11am at the LMCC offices at 202 Merrimack St. in Lawrence, neighborhood volunteers will begin the process of distributing the baskets and make a short presentation to those involved in the project.

All of LMCC's current base of operations is currently located at the Wood Mill Complex at 202 Merrimack St in Lawrence, MA.

The LMCC is program of the Greater Lawrence Community Action Program (GLCAC), Inc.

SPROUT: Splattered Paint on 'Ur Turf

The Elizabeth A. Beland Gallery at Essex Art Center is pleased to present SPROUT: Splattered Paint on 'Ur Turf.

Exhibition Dates:
December 6 - 16, 2005

Opening Reception:
Tuesday, December 6, 6-8 pm

Taking their inspiration from "Magnetic Poetry" - those little word magnets that when you mix them all up spell out nonsensical and often poetic fragments - these teens came up with the idea of exploring the Lawrence community and the subject of diversity by making their own giant magnetic "poetry". Over the course of several months, the youth went out into the community with audio recording equipment and cameras in hand, stopping EMTs on their lunch break at Paisano's Pizza, tracking down a registered nurse at the Family Health Center, laughing it up with seniors at the Lawrence Senior Center and interviewing a mail carrier at the Post Office. From the latter, they got first hand information on what is involved in being a US Postal Service Union Letter Carrier Representative, as well as tips on applying for Postal Service jobs, among other things.

The photographs that they produced over the course of the project are being transformed into magnetic exquisite corpses that provide endless possibilities

of combining heads and bodies with feet and legs. The transcriptions of the audio interviews are now magnetic "poetry" text to be manipulated to the viewer's liking. The Beland Gallery will be transformed for the run of the exhibition into a giant interactive magnet board, with a backdrop mural of an urban cityscape upon which the magnets can be moved around.

Youth learning skills in leadership, interviewing, photography and project planning are just some of the many reasons why this project gained the attention and support of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's highly competitive YouthReach funding program. The award of this YouthReach matching grant, in the amount of \$11,500 signifies that the Essex Art Center provides a high level of quality in its programs, community service and administrative ability. More importantly, this grant makes it possible for this collaboration between EAC and CAS students to continue involving the most at risk youth in positive and constructive community engaged art projects in the City of Lawrence.

For further information about this exhibition or to receive digital images for publication, please contact Cathy McLaurin, cathy@essexartcenter.com or at 978-685-2343.

The Elizabeth A. Beland Gallery is located on the first floor of Essex Art Center at 56 Island Street, Lawrence, MA.

Gallery hours: Monday and Wednesday 10 am - 8:30 pm, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10 am - 5 pm

The Elizabeth A. Beland Gallery is located on the first floor of Essex Art Center at 56 Island Street, Lawrence, MA.

Upcoming Events at NECC

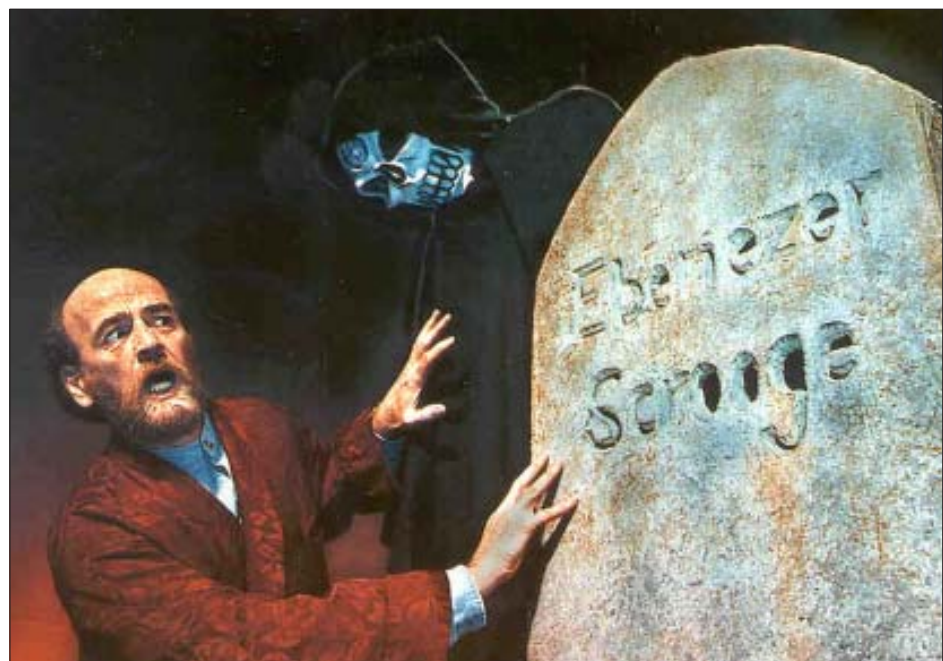
Northern Essex Community College presents its annual Student Dance Performance on Friday, Dec. 2 at noon and Saturday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sport and Fitness Center on the Haverhill Campus. The performance will highlight a variety of dance idioms from ballet to jazz to modern choreographed to music ranging from Tchaikovsky to Leonard Bernstein to Creed. Featured will be "Home for the Holidays" choreographed by NECC student Olivia Hanson of Lowell to music from The Nutcracker Suite.



Shown front left to right are twin sisters Alicia and Jessica Twohig of North Reading and back row left to right Colleen McCabe, Olivia Hansen, and Renee Welcome, all of Lowell.



Shown in the photo is "Stuck" performed and choreographed by (left to right) twins Alicia and Jessica Twohig of North Reading.



The Christmas holidays just wouldn't be complete without a dose of Tiny Tim, Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, and Jacob Marley. These characters and spirits will come to life during Northern Essex Community College's 6th annual production of A Christmas Carol. This Christmas classic, written by Charles Dickens in 1843 over a six-week period, will be performed by a cast comprised of faculty, staff, alumni, and students of the college, as well as members of the community. Performances will be held, Friday, December 9 at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 10, 3 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. in the Top Notch Theater located on the third floor of the Spurr Building on the college's Haverhill campus. The 7 p.m. performance on Saturday, December 10, is a benefit performance; all proceeds will be donated to the Hawrylcw Theatre. Free parking and handicap access are available.

Meehan Hosts Forum on Lawrence's Renewal Community Zone

Congressman Meehan will host a forum on Monday, December 5, 2005, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, to discuss the expansion of Lawrence's Renewal Community Zone. Representatives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Internal Revenue Service will be on hand to answer questions on how the expansion will benefit Lawrence's business community.

The forum will take place at Sal's Conference Center and Function Facility, The Riverwalk, 354 Merrimack Street, Lawrence, MA

Historical Background

In January 2002, Lawrence was one of the first 40 communities in the nation to have been designated a Renewal Community by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Businesses in Lawrence's Renewal Community Zone are afforded several tax incentives and benefits under the tax code, in order to spur economic development and revitalization.

In 2004, Congressman Meehan authored federal legislation to expand the Lawrence Renewal Community. In 2005, HUD acted to expand the Lawrence Renewal Community Zone to include the Wood Mill, Riverwalk, Tower Hill, and New Balance areas. The Renewal Community designation has provided Lawrence the city

In 2005, HUD acted to expand the Lawrence Renewal Community Zone to include the Wood Mill, Riverwalk, Tower Hill, and New Balance areas. The Renewal Community designation has provided Lawrence the city tax incentives to spur economic revitalization.

tax incentives to spur economic revitalization. For example, within the Renewal Community Zone:

- Sales of qualified community assets are subject to a 0% capital gains tax rate.
- Employers are eligible for a 15-percent wage credit for the first \$10,000 of qualified wages paid to each employee who is a resident of the community and performs employment services in the community for such employers.
- Taxpayers can either deduct one-half the cost of a new building or of rehabilitating an existing building in the year the building is placed in service, or amortize the entire cost over a 120-month period; and businesses can deduct an additional \$35,000 in capital expenditures.

Lawrence Pop Warner Cheerleaders Win Again

The Lawrence Pop Warner a team Cheerleaders captured third place at the New England Region Cheerleading Competition on Sunday, at the DCU Center in Worcester, Massachusetts on Sunday, November 27th.

The ten member competitive squad competed against seventeen other squads in their division within Pop Warner, including Connecticut and Rhode Island. Lawrence fans, which traveled by bus and adorned in bright yellow T-shirts, commandeered a balcony section to cheer for the girls. Football players, who are usually on the receiving end of the cheerleaders, were present to cheer for the girls. Their motto is: *One League, One Dream*.

The competition officially ends the 2005 season for the cheerleaders. Their season was action packed as they won First Place at the Merrimack Valley Competition, then Third Place in the Eastern Massachusetts Division. "To place third in this competition is nothing short of amazing, we are very proud of our girls," says the league president Fred Elwell. "We are already receiving phone calls and emails from children in the city who want to register for next season."

The squad plans to return next year and return to competition. Registration for the

Their motto is:
One League, One Dream.

2006 Football and Cheerleading season begins in March, 2006. Registrations are expected to double in size next year.

They have been running a "Can Drive" this past weekend with other volunteers throughout the league to raise the \$16,000.00 needed for airfare and resort fees. This is the first time any Pop Warner team from Lawrence has ever made it past Eastern Massachusetts and moved into Regionals. They represent Lawrence in a very positive way to other communities and states.

The girls' will continue their Can Drive at local businesses in the community right through Thanksgiving weekend. Please be sure to wish them luck should you see them in your travels.

This ten member squad practices several times a week and have overcome many obstacles this season searching for indoor practice space. Most locations required payment to use their space and many others were already booked with basketball teams.

Anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible donation to the squad, please contact President Fred Elwell @ 978-683-6150 or president@lawrencepopwarner.com



PRAYER CHAIN FOR OUR MILITARY...PLEASE DON'T BREAK IT

Prayer

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen."

Prayer Request

When you read this, please stop for a moment and say a prayer for our troops around the world.

Now you can workout close to home.

The new Cardio/Wellness Center at the Methuen YMCA is open!
New classes planned for January include:

Treading: A new aerobic small group workout takes shape using treadmills

Cardio Circuit: The benefits of cross training using treadmills, bikes, and elliptical machines

Fit-Start for Women: A coached workout with an educational component, small steps, and help with setting achievable goals in a low-pressure, fun atmosphere.

The new Cardio/Wellness Center is open for those who want to use the equipment on a drop-in basis (age 18 and older).

Stop by for a tour.



Fun with Frosty

Start off the holiday season at the YMCA with our Fun with Frosty party. We will make snow sculptures and crafts, play winter games. Light breakfast served.

Wednesday, December 7, 2005
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

No cost for YMCA Family members;
\$10 per family for non-members.



Methuen Branch
129 Haverhill Street
978.683.5266
www.mvymca.org

Merrimack Valley
YMCA

NECC Addresses Retention of Student Athletes

Retention of student athletes can be a struggle, especially at community colleges, where many of the athletes are juggling sports and academics with family and job responsibilities.

At Northern Essex Community College, athletic coaches and the athletic director work closely with the college's faculty and staff to insure that students have every opportunity to succeed both on the field and in the classroom.

Their efforts are paying off, according to the most recent statistics which show a 100 percent retention rate for student athletes from the fall of 2004 to the spring of 2005. All of the 49 athletes that participated in fall sports returned for the spring semester which is a first for the college since it began compiling these statistics in 1997/98.

"Our coaches are doing more than encouraging winning," said Sue MacAvoy, athletic coordinator. "They're focusing on keeping their students in school and helping them achieve their goals, whether that's transferring to a four-year college or securing a job after graduating."

Student athletes are required to get a progress report from their professors every two weeks, to attend study halls before and after practice, and to participate in workshops covering topics such as career planning and stress and time management. They are also encouraged to participate in community service activities.

Paul Nartiff of Methuen, a business transfer major and basketball player, says what they are doing is working. "I came to Northern Essex to play basketball and when I got here I became more and more interested in academics. The college helped me mature and provided me with an opportunity to further my education in a field of study that I am interested in. My decision to become a student athlete at NECC has made my future much clearer and brighter."

A 2003 graduate of Methuen High School, Nartiff wants to transfer to a four-year college after receiving his associate degree this spring and major in sports management. He is looking at Northeastern University and U.Mass/Amherst. Nartiff was recently named an Academic All American by the National Junior College Athletic Association Region XXI.

Northern Essex's fall sports include volleyball and cross country. Winter sports include men's and women's basketball. Spring sports include baseball and track and field. For more information, contact Susan



"I came to Northern Essex to play basketball and when I got here I became more and more interested in academics. The college helped me mature and provided me with an opportunity to further my education in a field of study that I am interested in. My decision to become a student athlete at NECC has made my future much clearer and brighter."

Paul Nartiff of Methuen, a student at Northern Essex Community College, was recently named an Academic All American by the National Junior College Athletic Association Region XXI.

MacAvoy, athletics coordinator, 978 556-3820 or smacavoy@necc.mass.edu.

With campuses in Haverhill and Lawrence and extension sites in Andover, Methuen, and North Andover, Northern Essex Community College is a state-assisted college, offering over 70 associate degree and certificate programs as well as hundreds of non credit courses designed for personal enrichment and career growth. Close to 11,000 students ranging from recent high school graduates to workers employed locally attend classes days, evenings, and weekends. Northern Essex is the only state college located in the lower Merrimack Valley Region of Massachusetts.

Haverhill News

ACTIVITIES AT THE HAVERHILL SENIOR CENTER

For any of the following activities, unless noted differently, please call Kathy Bresnahan or Rita LaBella at the Council on Aging at (978) 374-2390.

Monthly Discussion Group

Council on Aging is seeking members to form a monthly discussion group to be held at the Citizen Center. Day and time will be determined according to the needs of the group. Topics for lively conversations could include current events, politics, international events, local events, etc.

Visit the Whittier Birthplace

The COA and John Greenleaf Whittier Birthplace are hosting a holiday visit to the Whittier Family homestead at 305 Whittier Road. Join us at 2:00 on Wednesday, December 7 for light refreshments, a private museum tour, and readings from Snow-Bound selected and read by Renee Harlow, Curator. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to learn about one of Haverhill's outstanding historical treasures, make new friends, and enjoy!

Second Holiday Party at DiBurro's

The Council on Aging is sponsoring its Second Annual Holiday Party at DiBurro's in Ward Hill on Wednesday, December 14 at 11:00. Tickets are available for \$5.00 to the first 300 Haverhill seniors 60 and older. Additional Haverhill seniors, non-residents, and non-seniors may purchase tickets for \$16.00. Doors will open at 10:30. No early birds, please. Tables of ten may be reserved. Enjoy a wonderful holiday celebration with the Haverhill COA. Good Times disc jockey George Whitehouse and the Golden Hill Middle School chorus and bell ringers will provide entertainment. Door prizes and raffle gifts will be plentiful. Tickets may be purchased at the Haverhill COA, 10 Welcome Street.

FREE CELL PHONES

Council on Aging announces it has a supply of free cell phones for Haverhill seniors. These phones are programmed to call 911 in an emergency. This is a free service. Please call Joel Berg for additional information.

Tickets To The New Year's Eve Day Party

The Council on Aging has tickets to the New Year's Eve Day Party at the Danversport Yacht Club on December 31, 2005. Enjoy a wonderful New Year's Eve celebration at noon and be home before dark! Singer Bobby Justin will provide dazzling entertainment with his wonderful impersonations of Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra and Tom Jones. The Yacht Club's famous Chicken Danversport will be served for luncheon. Tickets are \$55 including transportation from the Citizen Center. Bus will leave at 11:00 AM and return at approximately 4:30 PM.

The Treble Chorus' Concert

The Council on Aging and Cultural Arts Council are sponsoring a holiday concert titled *This Winter Day* by The Treble Chorus of New England on December 4, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. The concert will take place at the Universal Unitarian Church, Kenoza Avenue, Haverhill. There is no charge for this community event.

This is the perfect holiday event for grandparents, parents and children.

The Treble Chorus is a youth choral program founded in 1975. The mission is to develop an understanding for and a love of classical music, to provide exceptional choral training, and to offer choral concerts that benefit diverse audiences in Massachusetts and communities throughout the world. The Chorus is in residence at Merrimack College. For additional information, I refer you to www.treblechorus.com.

For additional information contact Haverhill COA 978-374-230.

Keep your mail carrier safe this fall season

"Many Lawrence residents may argue that autumn is the best of our four seasons. The beautiful colors of the leaves inspire us to seek out the best vantage points to view the dazzling tapestry. And while we all agree that leaves are beautiful on trees, once they fall, they can become a hazard when left on walkways, driveways or porches," said Postmaster Joseph J. Fanciullo.

"During the winter months, you are diligent at removing snow around mail boxes

"Thank you for your cooperation as we look to keep your postal carrier out of harm's way"

and walk areas. On behalf of the service workers and guests visiting your home, we hope you will make the same effort at clearing leaves from the passage ways leading to your doors and mailbox," he said.

He said leaves that look dry can hold

moisture underneath, making them slippery over concrete, blacktop or a wooden structure, like a porch. By keeping these areas clear of leaves you will lessen the chance of someone slipping and possibly being injured.

"Thank you for your cooperation as we look to keep your postal carrier out of harm's way. We welcome our daily visit to your home and look forward to another safe season of serving you," he said.



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Mr. B's Sports Memories

Bob Licare's North Andover hoopsters win a big one in 1974

By Frank Benjamin



The opponent was Bedford High school and the site was the Boston Garden and it was the fabled Tech Tourney.

In 1974 male teachers all wore neckties and all women teachers wore dresses had fresh hairdos and high heels that made them look much more professional than the teachers of today.

All girl gym suits were ugly and even the prettiest lass had trouble looking good while wearing such attire.

Nearly all mothers were home when a child returned from school.

On a black and white TV that took at least five minutes to warm up we were watching Nancy Drew, Laurel and Hardy, Howdy Doody with Phineas Bluster and the peanut gallery and the Lone Ranger also Roy and Dale with Trigger and Buttermilk.

Bob Licare Sr., a legendary State Coach Hall-of-Famer was at the helm. Dickie Licare now the Central Catholic coach was the playmaker for his dad's team. He was considered by many to be a mini coach on the floor before going to and playing hoop at Merrimack College.

The coach warned his team that Mike Elias was a big force to be reckoned with after scoring 37 points against a strong team, well coached by George Gregoire from Lowell's Central Catholic team. Licare tells the local press that Elias is the "McCoy" and the "best player I've seen in a long time."

The red and black of North Andover had been finalists in this tourney 3 times in 5 years. Holy Family dealt them a heartbreaking loss 5 years ago eking out a one point win and last year it was Rindge Tech by four points 54/50.

This year's version of "turkey owners" were hot from the start and young Dickie was dishing out like any army mess sergeant gone amok and the offense was really clicking. At one point in the 1st period the slick guard had five assists and his team had a 15/3 lead. North Andover's Scarlet Knights led at the 1st quarters end by the score of 21 to 11. High schools played 4 quarters in 1974.

If the Bedford coach and his players thought that the Licare boys would cool off in the second period they were in for a rude awakening. A 29 point 2nd stanza was the NA response. Taking a 50/21 lead into the end of the first half had many of the people from both sides surprised. Defense was always the byword at the local suburban school and to see his troops amass such a lead had the coach very leery of a letdown.

His team had Andy Brien still of the town. Brien whose sister, a fine woman player at the school, is these days a very successful coach of the school's girls team who by the way, preaches the "D" to her charges. The aforementioned Dickie Licare,

This year's 1974 Scarlet Knights removed a huge monkey off their backs by defeating Bedford High for the State Division 2 Crown at Boston Garden and erased all past disappointments by pummeling them 81/47.

Billy St. Cyr, Brian Smith, Will Uttley, Tom Teichman who is still a "townie" and later a fine hoop official who this past year watched his son perform for his school. Tommy Enright (who will still greet you at the village store), was a tough scorer and a rugged defensive player.

St. Cyr and Sid Peterson were given the ominous job of guarding the Bedford big threat Mike Elias and he must've felt like a Siamese twin to these guys, if he went to the bench one of these guys was with him. They stuck to him like flies on flypaper. I'm sure many of you remember flypaper.

Elias didn't have many clean looks at the hoop and although he found a way to score 17 points seven were scored in the fourth quarter when the outcome had long been decided. The coach Licare took a page from Red Auerbach's play book when he sent in a sixth player, Jerry Gordon pulled a John Havlicek when he had 5 steals 4 assists and score 14 points.

Uttley hit for 8 points and along with teammates Enright, Smith, and Cunningham gave a clinic on defense at the Garden this day. Peterson threw in 19, Gordon 14 and Brien for the winners. Hitting for 11 points and running the offense to perfection the coach's son went to the bench with the team of followers from the town giving him a standing ovation.

The coach was all smiles as he finally won a State Title in Boston Garden. He and his wife Janet winter in Florida and one wonders if they remember the games of the past and this great season as Cape Ann League Champs to go along with this title. It took North Andover 12 trips to the tourney before they could finally nail a championship down.

I'm sure the coach won't admit it as he never mentions his career to anyone and I've been privileged to spend much time with him after he retired and he was pretty closed mouth about his record. When entering the North Andover Fieldhouse take notice of the banners his teams won. I'll bet that the first State Championship will always be special for two reasons one being the winner and to his team being led by his son to victory.

This year's 1974 Scarlet Knights removed a huge monkey off their backs by defeating Bedford High for the State Division 2 Crown at Boston Garden and erased all past disappointments by pummeling them 81/47.1 wonder if the parents and sister of Dickie and Bobby knew that maybe the best was yet to come from these fine hoopsters.

It was a hoop dream come true for a basketball Town.

Letters to the Editor

Latinos Unidos de New Hampshire Elects New Executive Committee

We would like to inform you that Latinos Unidos de New Hampshire held their elections this past Saturday and elected a New Executive Committee. This new committee will be organizing all the activities related to our organization and the up-coming Seventh Latino Festival of New Hampshire to be held on August 19, 2006.

The New Executive Committee officers are: President, Wanda Caraballo; Vice-President, Pablo Marrero; Treasurer, Jose Parra; Secretary, Jimary Feliciano.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our Latino Community, our active members of LUNH, our Business Sponsors, INTOWN MANCHESTER, the City of Manchester, the State of New Hampshire, and the community at large for all the support provided to our

organization during this past year. I'll like to thank you for the opportunity you offered me of serving our community as this year's President of Latinos Unidos de New Hampshire. It has been a wonderful learning experience. I will always treasure all the time we shared through our activities, and would like to respectfully request that you continue supporting this organization and their New Executive Committee as they begin to work together to achieve the very valuable goals of our organization.

Thank You for your support.

Saludos, (Regards)

Sonia L. Parra
President
Latinos Unidos de New Hampshire

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Address: 315 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence MA 01843
e-mail: rumbo@rumbonews.com

Letters should have no more than 300 words. Please include a telephone number or electronic address to confirm who is sending it.

Six-Month Automatic Extensions Available to Most Taxpayers in 2006

WASHINGTON—Taxpayers will be able to request an automatic, six-month tax-filing extension for most common individual and business returns under regulations released today by the Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service.

The new regulations provide streamlined and simplified procedures that are expected to save taxpayers between \$73 million and \$94 million, annually, by eliminating or consolidating several existing IRS forms. As a result, Beginning Jan. 1, 2006, most individuals and businesses will be able to request a full six-month tax-filing extension, without a reason or even a signature.

The new procedures will replace the existing two-step process under which noncorporate taxpayers could only get a six-month extension by first obtaining an extension, usually automatic, for part of that period and then requesting a discretionary extension for the remainder. A tax-filing extension does not extend the tax-payment deadline.

"Some taxpayers need a full six months for extensions as the law provides. This change simplifies the process so they can make the request just once, not twice," said IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson.

Beginning with 2005 returns due in 2006, individuals will be able to use a single IRS form (Form 4868) to get an automatic

six-month extension of time to file. This will replace the existing two-step process under which an automatic extension was only allowed for four months, generally until Aug. 15. If more time was needed, a taxpayer had to explain why, using a second extension request form (Form 2688). About 6% of individual taxpayers request the initial four-month extension, and about a third of those go on to request a second extension, usually for two months until October 15. Form 2688 will be eliminated.

Extension procedures will also be streamlined for business taxpayers, thus eliminating three existing forms. Under existing procedures, only corporations can request an automatic six-month tax-filing extension. The new regulations will also make this option available to most noncorporate business taxpayers, including partnerships and trusts.

Accordingly, starting Jan. 1, all eligible business taxpayers will use Form 7004 to request an automatic six-month extension of time to file. In the past, eligible noncorporate business taxpayers had to request an initial three-month extension and, if more time was needed, then request another three months.

Treasury Decision 9229 is available on the IRS Web site, IRS.gov, and will be published in the Federal Register on Nov. 7, 2005.

New England Civic Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* at North Andover's Rogers Center, Merrimack College Campus

By Patricia Wentworth

With holiday time approaching, you may have visions of sugarplums dancing in your head, or a tree that grows enormous, a nutcracker toy that becomes a prince, and a young girl whose dream comes true when she becomes his princess and takes a journey to a magical land of sweets.

You don't have to travel to a large city to see a high caliber production of this wonderful ballet. For the 10th year, New England Civic Ballet Company will perform Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* right here at the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts on the Merrimack College campus in North Andover, MA.

New costumes, new scenery and talented local dancers feature prominently in this year's 10th anniversary production. New England Civic Ballet, a professional-caliber ballet company located nearby in Lawrence, MA, was founded in 1996 to bring high-quality ballet to the Merrimack Valley. Because it retains no base company, NECB casts the roles for their ballets through open audition or invitation.

This year, over 90 dancers from communities and dance schools throughout northeastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire were selected to train for



Lawrence and Methuen dancers in NECB's *Nutcracker* ballet are Back Row (L to R): Kelly Scarpone, Stephanie Bergeron, Kim Wentworth, Maria Karamourtopoulos Middle Row (L to R): Jana Schulz, Bryanne Papadakis, Rebecca Westerman, Nurilys Cintron. Front Row (L to R): Rebecca Boshar, Linnea Schulz, Michaela Doyle, Allison Barstow. Missing from Photo: Ashley Fichera, Abby Heffron, Gary Mannion, Audra Mele Lawrence dancers featured in the performance are: Ashley Fichera who dances the role of Arabian and Flower in Act I's Palace of Sweets as well as Snow in Act I (Ashley has worked her way up through the roles in the production and has danced just about every role, including the coveted Sugar Plum Fairy last year), Gary Mannion performs as Drosselmeyer (the gift bearing uncle of Clara who presents his favorite niece with the magical toy).

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Fax: (978) 685-2221

The Nutcracker under the artistic director Phyllis George and her partner Roshni Pecora. The result is a rewarding learning experience that displays the dancers' talents and accomplishments and affords a professional-quality performance of the ballet for their audience.

Performances take place on Friday, December 9 at 7:30 PM, Saturday, December 10 at 2:00 and 7:30 PM, and Sunday, December 11 at 1 PM and 5:00 PM. A limited number of tickets for all performances are still available but are going fast at \$20.00 for adults, and \$18.00 for children under 12 and senior citizens over 55. Group discounts are available. For ticket sales and information, please call the studio at 978-975-0289 or

charge you tickets online at www.newenglandcivicalballet.org. After December 4, you may purchase tickets at the Rogers Center during final rehearsals: Monday, December 5 and Wednesday, December 7 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM.

Join New England Civic Ballet for one of the most popular *Nutcracker* productions outside of Boston and share the holiday magic! And watch for the premiere of the original ballet *The Enchanted Glen* written and choreographed by artistic director Phyllis George. *The Enchanted Glen*, set to Celtic music and drawing on Irish legend and mystical themes, will premiere in March 2006 as NECB's 10th anniversary celebration continues.

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Arte en el Valle



DECEMBER

GALLERY 181 ART EXHIBITS

"Island Transfer"

December 1 - 30

Cotton Weaving House
181 Canal Street, Lawrence

A showing of artwork by Veronica Holmes,
Marie Marchand & Jim Primmer.

Artist Reception Dec. 9, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Hors Devours & wine will be served.

Free & open to the public.

For info: 978-683-2873.

EXHIBICIONES DE ARTE EN GALERIA 181

Dic. 1 - 30

181 Canal St, Lawrence

Exhibición de arte por Veronica Holmes,
Marie Marchand & Jim Primmer

Para más información: 978-683-2873.

CHRISTMAS AT METHUEN MEMORIAL MUSIC HALL

192 Broadway, Methuen

Holiday Open House

Friday, Dec. 2

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Free Event.

A Merry Music Hall Christmas

Sat., Dec. 3 - 7:30 PM

Sun. Dec. 4 - 3:00 PM

Brass ensemble & Organ.

For ticket info: 978-682-8674.

NAVIDAD EN METHUEN MEMORIAL MUSIC HALL

Recepción abierta al público

Viernes, Dic. 2 de 7 a 9 PM.

Entrada gratis.

"A Merry Music Hall Christmas"

Sábado, dic. 3 - 7:30 PM

Domingo, dic. 4 - 3:00 PM

Para más información: 978-682-8674.

MERRIMACK VALLEY PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

ANNUAL FAMILY HOLIDAY
CELEBRATION

Sunday, Dec. 4 - 2:30 PM.

Rogers Center for the Arts

Merrimack College, No. Andover

For Info: 978-685-3505.

CONCIERTO DE LA ORQUESTA FILARMÓNICA DEL VALLE DE MERRIMACK - NAVIDAD

Domingo, Dic. 4 - 2:30 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

Merrimack College, No. Andover

Para más información: 978-685-3505.

"THE NUTCRACKER"

Friday, Dec. 9 - 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 10

2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Sunday, December 11

1:00 PM. & 5:00 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

Merrimack College, No. Andover

Performed by New England Civic Ballet.

Experience a little girl's holiday dream as she

is transported to a magical place.

Tickets sell quickly so don't miss out on this

holiday tradition.

Information and reservations: 978-975-0289.

NEW ENGLAND CIVIC BALLET

"CASCANUECES"

Viernes, Dic. 9 7:30 PM

Sabado, Dic 10, 2 y 7:30 PM

Domingo, Dic 11, 1 y 5:00 PM

La experiencia de una niña y su sueño
siendo transportada a un lugar mágico.

Para más información: 978-975-0289

THE ANDOVER CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

BAROQUE BRAVURA!

Saturday, Dec. 10 - 5:30 PM

South Church, Andover

Annual Holiday Concert!

For info: 978-474-6222.

MÚSICA DE CÁMARA DE ANDOVER

Sábado, dic 10 - 5:30 PM

South Church, Andover

Baroque Bravura!

Concierto Anual de Navidad.

Para más información: 978-474-6222

NEW ENGLAND CLASSICAL SINGERS PRESENT

"CHRISTMAS COLLAGE"

Saturday, Dec. 17 - 7:30 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

Merrimack College, No. Andover

A collection of glorious holiday music.

For info: 978-474-6090.

CANTORES CLÁSICOS DE NUEVA INGLATERRA

Sábado, Dic. 17 - 7:30 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

Merrimack College, No. Andover

Concierto Navideño.

Para más información: 978-474-6090

THE TREBLE CHORUS OF NEW ENGLAND PRESENTS

"A MUSICAL HOLIDAY JOURNEY"

Sun., Dec. 18 - 4:00 PM.

Rogers Center for the Arts

Merrimack College, No. Andover

Annual holiday concert. (Concierto Anual de

Navidad).

For Info: 978-837-5462

MORNING BOOK DISCUSSION

Mon., Dec. 19, 10:30 AM

Memorial Hall Library, Andover

"The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night

time" by Mark Haddon

BOOK DISCUSSION

"SISTER OF MY HEART"

CHITRA BANERJEE DIVAKARUNI (India)

Mon. Dec. 19 - 6:00 PM

So. Lawrence Public Library

135 Parker St., Lawrence

Friends of the Library present this year's

Book Discussion Series

focusing on new writers from the East.

EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION

Wed., Dec. 21 - 7:30 PM

Memorial Hall Library Andover

"The Good Earth" by John Steinbeck.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Tues. Dec. 27 - 7:30 PM

Memorial Hall Library, Andover

"The Last Days of Socrates"

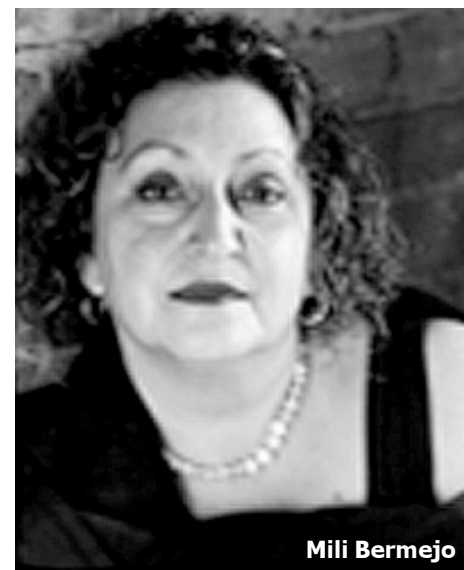
(Euthyphro, Apology, Crito, Phaedo, Plato)

Artistic events at the Factory Jazz Factory

Mili Bermejo returns

There are two wonderful art events happening Friday, December 9th at Factory Jazz Project. Mili Bermejo will return to the Island St., Lawrence stage at 7:00 pm. Her performance moved us so much the last time she was here we had to have her back.

For the last twenty years, singer, composer, and Berklee College of Music Professor Mili Bermejo has transcended the borders between cultures and musical genres. By adding authentic Latin folk music, classical ideas, and beautiful storytelling to the diverse musical tapestry that includes Dizzy Gillespie's Afro-Cuban music and Abbey Lincoln's social awareness, she has created her own brand of eclectic jazz. Called the place "where jazz meets Latin with elegance and soul" by critic Bob Blumenthal, her inclusive music breaks new ground while lovingly honoring rich musical.



Mili Bermejo

Alan Bull Exhibit

The great painter and teacher Alan Bull will be showing his work at the first of many openings at 60 Island St. from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Alan Bull is an artist dividing his time between Greenport, NY and Newburyport, MA who is known for his colorful, boldly painted images in various media including watercolors, oils, acrylics, monotypes and

pastels. Originally from Old Town, Maine, he received his BFA from the Philadelphia College of Art and worked as a muralist/portrait artist before spending 4 years as a studio assistant to glass sculptor Dan Dailey in Amesbury, Massachusetts. In 1992 he left the Dailey studio to create a series of monotypes at Fox Graphics in Merrimack, MA and began to exhibit extensively including shows in Boston, Cleveland, New York and London.

There will be a buffet for your body and art for the soul, and people to meet for our hearts.

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CITY OF LAWRENCE

Department of Public Works

To the residents of the City of Lawrence:

Please be advised that the **deadline** for citywide yard waste collection is **Friday, December 2nd**.

Please, put out your leaves **as soon as possible**. Due to the enormous amount of leaves placed curbside nearing the end of the fall season, collection may be late but your yard waste will be picked up.

Please feel free to call the recycling coordinator in the Department of Public Works, if you have any issues or concerns.

Thank for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. We wish you a happy and safe holiday season!

If you have any questions regarding this section or anything else, please get in touch with the shelter during regular work hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am to 4pm and on Thursdays from 12 noon to 7pm, by calling (978) 687-7453.
MSPCA Online
 Find our page in the Internet:
methuen-mspca.org
 The animal shelter is located at 400 de Broadway, Ruta 28 en Methuen.



Kindness and Care for Animals™

PAWSITIVELY INTERESTING

MSPCA - Methuen & Rumbo Cooperative Education Column

PETS LOOKING FOR ADOPTION



Bling, Domestic Short Hair Mix, Age: 10 months, Sex: Spayed Female

I'm Bling and if I say it myself I am a SUPER FABULOUS companion! I get along with everyone, men, women, kids, other cats, and dogs. I liked the dogs in my old home and I really enjoyed meeting the dog in my foster home. I'm very cuddly. I like to be pet, picked up, and I'll take all the lap time I can get. Playful? You want playful? Let me tell you, I'm a playing machine! I'll bet there isn't any game I can't learn. I've got energy to burn. And if you want someone to talk with, well you can tell me anything. And I'll tell you everything I'm thinking too. I'm a great conversationalist. What more can I say? With my good looks and personality, I'm not going to be here long. Come see me soon!

Daisy, Domestic Short Hair - gray and white, Tiger Mix, Age: Adult, Sex: Spayed Female

See the beautiful Daisy! She is a sweet gal who was brought in off the street pregnant and looking for a new place to call her own. She went to foster with her kittens and is now back ready to be adopted. She is social and friendly and is always up for a brushing or a good pat on the head. She loves to meet to new people and will come up on your lap if you'll let her. She loves to play and is really just an overall easygoing gal. Looking for a new friend to share your home? Daisy may be just the one for you!



Dave, Domestic Short Hair, Tiger Mix, Age: 4 years old, Sex: Neutered Male

Dave is a 4 year old neutered male and he is super-fantastic! He was found on our property and has wandered from our grounds into our hearts. He is as about as affectionate and sweet as they come. When you open his cage door, instead of hopping out to roam around the room he hops out onto your lap and won't leave till you make him. He does not like other cats, so he needs to be the only king in his castle, but he has so much love to give you wont be

needing another! Looking for a wonderful guy to give a forever home to? Dave's your man!

Jack, Hamster, Age: Young, Sex: Male

Hi there, I may look grumpy in my little "Strawberry" house, but, hey - wouldn't you, if woken by a rude paparazzi for a "bedroom" photo shot? Actually, I am a super friendly and calm little fellow, who craves for attention and loves (supervised) out of cage time. Like my fellow male hamster friends, I am perfectly satisfied living alone, but please! not in isolation. I hope so much to find the one that will make me an important part of a family.



Schilly, Pointer Mix, Age: Young, Sex: Spayed Female

Hey Everybody! My name is Schilly...cool name for a cool girl! I am 11 months old and full of energy and love. I am incredibly sweet, social and affectionate...just a big love bug! I also have a lot of energy that I need to burn off during the day, so I am looking for a family that can handle my energy level and make sure that I get a lot of exercise during the day. I love to go for walks, and hikes and I love, love, love to

play with other dogs. A home with another dog to keep my busy would be ideal but not required...as long as my human family can spend time with me and get me out and running, playing and maybe get me into playgroups with other dogs!!! I would probably be too much for little kids since I'd be so excited to see them I may topple them! I am in need of training as well...that will help my listening skills. Some of the staff have been working with me here on some commands and I am picking them up so quickly...I am very smart. So I can be

MSPCA at Nevins Farm Winter Festival

The staff and volunteers of the MSPCA would like to invite you to participate in the Seventh Annual Winter Festival at Nevins Farm. The event is scheduled to run Saturday December 3rd through Sunday December 11th with fun for the whole family.

As you may already know, the farm has undergone a number of changes in the past year. The Noble Family Animal Care and Adoption Center has been open now for almost a year and construction plans for the rest of the property are underway.

With all of the property changes, we have decided to display this year's crafts and raffle baskets in the Roger's Family Education and Training Room in the animal shelter. This is a larger and more comfortable space that we plan to fill with holiday cheer.

During Winter Festival, the Gift Shop will be open daily from 11am until 6pm and will have hand-made crafts, holiday gifts, animal themed items and greenery for sale. We will also have raffle tickets available on a number of wonderful gifts and holiday baskets generously donated by the community. We welcome everyone to come and shop, take a chance with a raffle and to have their picture taken with Santa. You will also be able to check out the work of some local artists and watch them demonstrate their techniques.

Event Information

Santa Photo Days: Professional Holiday photos with your pet and Santa will be taken by Photo Time of Windham, NH. Photos are \$8.00 per photo and additional packages can be ordered through Photo Time. In order to keep pets safe, all dogs must be leashed and all other pets, including cats, must be in carriers.

Crafts, Gifts and Greenery: During the month of December the carriage shed is transformed into a unique gift shop filled with gifts of all types donated by local businesses and residents. Many of the crafts are originals with an animal theme. It's the perfect place to find a gift for your favorite animal or animal lover.

Raffles: Help support the shelter and take home a beautiful holiday basket at the same time. Baskets are donated by local businesses and residents and generally



EVENT SCHEDULE

December 3rd - December 11th

- The Gift Shop is open for sales daily from 11am to 6pm.

December 3rd

- Santa Photo Days 10am - 2pm
- Children and families are welcome as well as pets. Dogs must be on leash and other pets must be in carriers.
- Kids craft corner]
- Story time with Uncle Chomp

December 4th

- Demonstrations by local woodcarver Robert Broadley
- Kids craft corner

December 10th

- Santa Photo Day's 10am - 2pm
- Children and families are welcome as well as pets. Dogs must be on leash and other pets must be in carriers.
- Kids craft corner
- Face Painting

December 11th

- Wool Spinner and Knitters
- Kids craft corner

value over \$100 each. There are also several specially items for raffle that can value up to \$500. Don't miss this opportunity and be sure to buy your tickets!

trained but I just need a family who will have the patience and time to get me to training. I will make an awesome companion as long as I find that right home....maybe it's your home!!!! I love to give kisses, I love kongs and stuffed animal toys and I love to run, run, run!!! And I do give hugs and love to cuddle as well! So if you're looking for a dog that will exercise with you and spend time doing activities with you and then will curl up with you at night...then I'm your gal!!!! Please come by the shelter and find out some more about me and we can hang out together!



Shadow, Labrador Retriever Mix, Age: 10 years old, Sex: Spayed Female

This older, sweet, completely housebroken girl is looking for a fun-loving home where she can relax but also has lots of opportunities to play. She would really love a true life-long friend who comforts her during those frightening thunderstorms. Shadow is very well behaved, gets along with cats and other dogs. And, off course, she loves swimming and looks for any occasion to take a plunge. Her other favorite thing to do is ride with you in the

car, ahhh! and take in the breeze! If you have been looking for a gentle and easygoing dog to watch TV and hang out with, you've found your gal!

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The Music Clubhouse at Lawrence YMCA

Job Description: Clubhouse Guitar Specialist

Program Description: The Music Clubhouse at the Lawrence YMCA is a unique place designed for young people, where they can explore their own interests and develop confidence through music. Youth ages 10 to 18 come to the Clubhouse to use our great collection of instruments, to explore our recording studio, to participate in special programming, and to connect with friends and adults. Youth membership at the Clubhouse is free. The Music Clubhouse is open weekdays from 3 to 8pm and on Saturdays from 1 to 4pm.

Position Summary: The Lawrence Music Clubhouse seeks a part-time employee, a charismatic individual to work with Lawrence's youth between ages 10 and 18. This person must be able to engage and encourage youth about themselves, about music, and certainly about learning to play the guitar. The Guitar Specialist must have enough guitar skills to guide and inspire novices and intermediates. **Your ability to relate well to kids and to engage youth effectively in your own way are as important as your guitar skills.** Clubhouse supervision, one-to-one teaching and group teaching are all part of this position. This is a part-time position for up to 20 hours weekly. Ten electric guitars, one electric bass guitar, several amps, a collection of acoustic guitars, picks, headphones and other necessary accessories are all provided by the Lawrence Music Clubhouse.

Qualifications: Candidates must...

- Be 18+ and enjoy working with kids in a hip and musical environment;
- Be able to relate well to kids as ally, mentor, coach;
- Have enough guitar skills to teach novice-to-intermediate guitar players;
- Be a team player who will work collaboratively with staff and volunteers;
- Bilingual candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Responsibilities: Duties include:

- Working up to 20 hours weekly;
 - Establishing a "cool" and accepting environment to develop youth confidence;
 - Supervising Clubhouse activities;
 - Helping individuals and groups learn guitar during Clubhouse hours.
 - Participating in YMCA orientation session.

Salary: \$12 to \$18 hourly, commensurate with experience.

How to Apply: Contact Amy Baione, Lawrence Music Clubhouse Director, 40 Lawrence Street, Lawrence, MA 01840, (978) 686-6191 ext. 17, or e-mail abaione@mvymca.org.

Shop till you drop for a good cause!

THE MSPCA AT NEVINS FARM WINTER FESTIVAL BEGINS!

Methuen, MA – The Nevins Farm gift shop is filled with holiday goodies. The MSPCA's 7th annual Nevins Winter Festival runs from Saturday, December 3rd through Saturday, December 11th. The Farm is bustling with activity for families and animals to enjoy. The Festival will be held at the MSPCA's Nevins Farm in Methuen on 400 Broadway, Rte. 28.

Our Festivities are as follows:

- **Holiday Pet Photos with Santa** is fun for the whole family. **Both Saturday December 3rd and December 11th photos will be taken from 10-2pm in the Maintenance building.**
- The **Gift Shop** is open throughout the festival for holiday shopping. We have a variety of gifts, crafts and greenery for you to purchase, all to support the programs at the MSPCA. **Hours are 11-6pm and the shop is located in the education room in the new facility.**
- **Demonstrations** include story time with Uncle Chomp, Woodcarving, Face painting, Wool spinners and knitters. New this year is a **Kids Craft Corner** for children to enjoy while you shop. **Our location is in the education room in the new shelter at Nevins Farm.**
- Our **Silver Bells Basket Raffle** has grown ever more popular each year. Many of the baskets donated to the MSPCA are worth over \$100.00. Please stop in to have a try at a basket as well as donate to the animals. The **Silver Bells Holiday Raffle** winners will be drawn on the final night of the festival.

All proceeds from the Festival will benefit the animals and programs of the MSPCA at Nevins Farm. We are a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that cared for more than 7,000 companion and farm animals last year. The support of friends in the community allows us to continue our work.

For more information about the Winter Festival at Nevins Farm, please call Jill O'Connell at (978) 687-7453 x 6105 or Brenda Hess-McAskill at (978) 687-7453 ext.6115.

Photos with Santa to Benefit the YMCA

Brickstone Square in Andover once again welcomes the Merrimack Valley YMCA to sponsor the always-popular photos with Santa as part of Santa's Village at the office complex.

Youth from the Andover/North Andover Branch YMCA's Teen leadership programs will be on hand to assist Santa and take the photos.

Photos are \$5.00/each. Hot chocolate and popcorn will be available. Proceeds will benefit the Merrimack Valley YMCA's youth and teen programs.

Photos can be taken, weather permitting, from 5-8pm, on:

- Saturday, November 26, 2005
- Saturday, December 3, 2005
- Friday, December 9, 2005
- Saturday, December 10, 2005
- Saturday, December 17, 2005

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!

Concurso de Geografía Jowdy

Jowdy Geography Challenge

By Alberto Surís



Equipo de St. Michael: | St. Michael's Team: Michael Sullivan, Anthony Curro, Captain Cody Muñoz, and Kayla Noismith.

By Alberto Surís

Veinticuatro alumnos de escuelas del área de 5to y 8vo grados compitieron en la Biblioteca de la Ciudad de Lawrence en la Décimo-sexta Competencia anual de Geografía, nombrada Jowdy, en honor a su fundador. El grupo de la Escuela Edward F. Parthum resultó victorioso sobre los Campeones del 2004, Saint Michael School, el pasado 18 de noviembre.

Alumnos de las Escuelas St. Mary's Immaculate Conception, Henry K. Oliver, St. Patrick Elementary y Emily G. Wetherbee schools también participaron en el Jowdy Geography Challenge, que es una combinación de un concurso de deletreo y del juego Jeopardy. El Jowdy Geography Challenge es un evento excitante, que crea una competencia en un sano ambiente de educación y diversión entre los niños de las escuelas locales.

En preparación para la competencia, los alumnos estudian varias categorías de geografía

por varias semanas, usando crucigramas, juegos y otros ejercicios. Las categorías para la competencia de este año fueron: Los Vecindarios de Lawrence y Puntos de Interés; Comidas del Mundo; Capitales de los Estados y A Qué Parte del Mundo Esto Pertenece.

Esta competencia comenzó en el 1989, a través de una fundación comenzada por la Sra. Theresa Jowdy y su amado esposo, el difunto Edward Jowdy, que creía que era posible tocar las mentes de los niños y mejorar el aprendizaje a través del estudio de la geografía. Hoy, el Jowdy Challenge se ha convertido en una popular tradición en la comunidad, animando a los niños y a las escuelas a descubrir nuevas y excitantes formas de aprender geografía local y mundial y progresar en su educación.

Twenty-four area-school children, grades 5 to 8 competed at the Lawrence Public Library's 16th Annual Jowdy Geography Challenge, on Friday, November 18th. The Edward F. Parthum School's Team came out victorious over the 2004 Champions from Saint Michael School.

Children from St. Mary's Immaculate Conception, Henry K. Oliver, St. Patrick Elementary and Emily G. Wetherbee Schools also participated in the Jowdy Geography Challenge, which is a cross between a spelling bee and a Jeopardy game. The Jowdy Geography Challenge is an exciting event, fostering an environment of healthy competition, education and fun for local school children.

In preparation for the challenge, children study various categories of geography for several weeks, using puzzles, games, and other exercises. The categories for this year's competition were: Lawrence Neighborhoods and Landmarks; Foods of the World; State Capitals and Where in the World Does This Belong.

The Challenge started back in 1989 through an endowment started by Ms. Theresa Jowdy and her beloved husband, the late Edward Jowdy, who believed it is possible to touch the minds of school children and improve literacy through the study of world geography. Today, the Jowdy Challenge has become a well-followed tradition in the community, encouraging children and school to discover exciting new ways to learn the geography of home and abroad and advance education.



La Sra. Theresa Jowdy, felicitando a los participantes del certamen.

Mrs. Theresa Jowdy congratulating the participants.



El voluntario de LCAT/Ch 8 Michael Garrihy captó toda la acción en video para transmitirla posteriormente.

LCAT/Ch 8 volunteer Michael Garrihy videotaped the Challenge for future broadcasting.



El Concejal Joseph W. Parolisi y Phyllis Tyler actuaron de jueces.

Councilor Joseph W. Parolisi and Phyllis Tyler acted as judges.



Maureen Nimmo, Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence, reconoció el esfuerzo de los participantes.

Maureen Nimmo, Director, Lawrence Public Library, acknowledged the participants' efforts.

Michael Miller fue el moderador.

Michael Miller was the moderator.

